

A COLLECTION
OF
THE ACTS
PASSED BY THE
GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL
IN THE YEAR
1885.

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TITLES
OF
ACTS PASSED BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA
IN COUNCIL
IN THE YEAR 1885.

- I. An Act to amend the Burma Steam-boilers and Prime-movers Act, 1882.
- II. to amend the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881.
- III. to amend the Transfer of Property Act, 1882.
- IV. to provide for the temporary appointment from time to time of an Additional Judicial Commissioner for Oudh.
- V. to amend the Indian Ports Act, 1875.
- VI. to amend Act XXII of 1881.
- VII. to amend the law in force in the Páunch Maháls.
- VIII. to amend and consolidate certain enactments relating to the law of Landlord and Tenant within the territories under the administration of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.
- IX. to repeal part of section 6 of the Indian Tariff Act, 1882, and to amend the Excise Act, 1881, the Bengal Excise Act, 1878, and the Sea Customs Act, 1878.
- X. to amend the Oudh Estates Act, 1869.
- XI. to correct an error in the Burma Municipal Act, 1884.
- XII. to amend the law relating to the carriage of passengers by sea.
- XIII. to amend the law relating to Telegraphs in India.
- XIV. to amend the Burma Courts Act, 1875, and section 360 of the Code of Civil Procedure.
- XV. to amend the Local Authorities Loan Act, 1879.
- XVI. to amend the law relating to Civil Courts in the Central Provinces.

- XVII.** An Act to make better provision for the Superintendence of Government Wards in the Central Provinces.
- XVIII.** to provide for cases in which Mines or Minerals are situate under land which it is desired to acquire under the Land Acquisition Act, 1870.
- XIX** to amend the law relating to Government Securities.
- XX.** to postpone for a limited time the operation of certain provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Act, 1885.
- XXI.** to amend the Madras Civil Courts Act, 1873.

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TO THE

ACTS PASSED BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL IN THE YEAR 1885.

[NOTE.—The abbreviations **BEN.**, **BOM.**, **B. B.**, **C. P.**, **MAD.** and **O.** indicate that the entries against which they are placed refer only to Bengal, Bombay, British Burma, the Central Provinces, Madras, or Oudh, as the case may be.]

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ACT NO. II OF 1885.

PASSED BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

*(Received the assent of the Governor General on the 30th
January, 1885.)*

An Act to amend the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881.

XXVI of
1881.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, in manner hereinafter appearing; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. This Act may be called the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1885. Short title.

XXVI of
1881.

2. In the fourth paragraph of section 7 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, for the words “When acceptance is refused and the bill is protested for non-acceptance” the following shall be substituted, namely:—“When a bill of exchange has been noted or protested for non-acceptance or for better security.” Amendment of section 7, Act XXVI of 1881.

3. After section 45 of the same Act the following shall be inserted:— New section inserted after section 45 of the same Act.

“45A. Where a bill of exchange has been lost before it is over-due, the person who was the holder of it may apply to the drawer to give him another bill of the same tenor, giving security to the drawer, if required, to indemnify him against all persons whatever in case the bill alleged to have been lost shall be found again.” Holder's right to duplicate of lost bill.

“ If

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“If the drawer on request as aforesaid refuses to give such duplicate bill, he may be compelled to do so.”

Addition to sections 61 and 64 of the same Act.

4. To section 61, and the first paragraph of section 64, of the same Act, the following shall be added :—

“Where authorised by agreement or usage, a presentment through the post office by means of a registered letter is sufficient.”

Addition to section 101 of the same Act.

5. To section 101 of the same Act the following shall be added :—

“A notary public may make the demand mentioned in clause (c) of this section either in person or by his clerk or, where authorised by agreement or usage, by registered letter.”

Section inserted after section 104 of the same Act.

6. After section 104 of the same Act the following shall be inserted :—

When noting equivalent to protest.

“104A. For the purposes of this Act, where a bill or note is required to be protested within a specified time or before some further proceeding is taken, it is sufficient that the bill has been noted for protest before the expiration of the specified time or the taking of the proceeding; and the formal protest may be extended at any time thereafter as of the date of the noting.”

Section 108 of the same Act, in part, repealed.

7. In the same Act, section 108, the second sentence is repealed.

Amendment of section 109 of same Act.

8. In the same Act, section 109,

(a) for the words “in the presence of a notary public subscribe the bill with his own hand and” the following shall be substituted, namely :—“by writing on the bill under his hand”; and

(b) the last twelve words are repealed.

Amendment of section 113 of same Act.

9. In the same Act, section 113, after the words “the person so paying” the words “or his agent in that behalf” shall be inserted.

10. After

10. After Chapter XVI of the same Act, the following shall be inserted :—

New chapter
added to same
Act.

—
“ CHAPTER XVII.

“ NOTARIES PUBLIC.

“ 138. The Governor General in Council may, from time to time, by notification in the official Gazette, appoint any person, by name or by virtue of his office, to be a notary public under this Act and to exercise his functions as such within any local area, and may, by like notification, remove from office any notary public appointed under this Act.

Power to ap-
point notaries
public.

“ 139. The Governor General in Council may, from time to time, by notification in the official Gazette, make rules consistent with this Act for the guidance and control of notaries public appointed under this Act, and may, by such rules, (among other matters) fix the fees payable to such notaries.”

Power to
make rules
for notaries
public.

ACT No. III OF 1885.

PASSED BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

(Received the assent of the Governor General on the 30th January, 1885.)

An Act to amend the Transfer of Property Act, 1882.

IV of 1882. **WHEREAS** it is expedient to amend the Transfer of Property Act, 1882; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. For the fifth clause of section 1 of the said Act the following shall be substituted, namely:—

Amendment of section 1 of Act IV of 1882.

“And any Local Government may, with the previous sanction of the Governor General in Council, from time to time, by notification in the local official Gazette, exempt, either retrospectively or prospectively, any part of the territories administered by such Local Government from all or any of the following provisions, namely:—

“Sections fifty-four, paragraphs two and three, fifty-nine, one hundred and seven and one hundred and twenty-three.”

2. The following clause shall be deemed to have been added to the first section of the said Act from the date on which it came into force, namely:—

Addition to same section.

“Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing part of this section, sections fifty-four, paragraphs two and three, fifty-nine, one hundred and seven and one hundred and twenty-three shall not extend or be extended to any district or tract of country for the time being excluded from the operation of the Indian Registration Act, 1877, under the power conferred by the first section of that Act or otherwise.”

II of 1877.

3. To

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Transfer of Property. [ACT III, 1885.]

Addition to
section 4 of
same Act.

3. To section 4 of the said Act the following shall be added, namely :—

“And sections fifty-four, paragraphs two and three, fifty-nine, one hundred and seven and one hundred and twenty-three shall be read as supplemental to the Indian Registration Act, 1877.”

III of 1877.

Addition to
section 6 of
same Act.

4. To section 6 of the said Act the following clause shall be added :—

“(i) Nothing in this section shall be deemed to authorize a tenant having an untransferable right of occupancy, the farmer of an estate in respect of which default has been made in paying revenue or the lessee of an estate under the management of a Court of Wards to assign his interest as such tenant, farmer or lessee.”

Amendment
of section 69
of same Act.

5. In section 69 of the said Act—

(a) after the words “is valid in the following cases” the words “and in no others” shall be inserted ; and

(b) after the words “Hindu, Muhammadan or Buddhist,” in both places where they occur, there shall be inserted the words “or a member of any other race, sect, tribe or class from time to time specified in this behalf by the Local Government, with the previous sanction of the Governor General in Council, in the local official Gazette.”

ACT No. IV OF 1885.

PASSED BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

(Received the assent of the Governor General on the 30th January, 1885.)

An Act to provide for the temporary appointment from time to time of an Additional Judicial Commissioner for Oudh.

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for the temporary appointment from time to time of an Additional Judicial Commissioner to assist the Judicial Commissioner of Oudh; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Oudh Additional Judicial Commissioner's Act, 1885; and

Short title
and com-
mencement.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. (1) The Local Government may, from time to time, with the previous sanction of the Governor General in Council, by notification in the local official Gazette, appoint such person as it thinks fit to be an Additional Judicial Commissioner, and to sit as such in the Court of the Judicial Commissioner of Oudh.

Appointment
of Additional
Judicial Com-
missioner of
Oudh.

(2) Every person so appointed shall hold his office during the pleasure of the Local Government.

3. Every Additional Judicial Commissioner shall exercise such jurisdiction and powers of the Judicial Commissioner under any enactment for the time being in force as the Local Government may, from time to time, prescribe, but only in such cases as the Judicial Commissioner may direct.

Jurisdiction
and powers
of Additional
Judicial
Commis-
sioner.

4. Every enactment for the time being applicable to the Judicial Commissioner shall apply to the Additional Judicial Commissioner when exercising any jurisdiction or powers under the last foregoing section, as if he were the Judicial Commissioner.

Law applica-
ble to Addi-
tional Judi-
cial Commis-
sioner.

[*Price one anna.*]

ACT No. V OF 1885.

PASSED BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

(Received the assent of the Governor General on the 6th February, 1885.)

An Act to amend the Indian Ports Act, 1875.

I of 1875.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Indian Ports Act, 1875, in manner hereinafter appearing; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. In section 42 of the said Act, for the words “Conservator of every port to which such order relates, and in the custom-house, if any, of every port subject to this Act” the following shall be substituted, namely:—“Conservator, and at the custom-house, if any, of every port to which such order relates”.

Amendment of section 42 of the Indian Ports Act, 1875.

2. To the fourth paragraph of section 47 of the said Act the following shall be added, namely:—“The expenses aforesaid shall also include the pensions, allowances and gratuities of persons who have been employed under this Act in the port, or such portion of those pensions, allowances and gratuities as the Local Government may by rule determine”.

Addition to section 47 of the same Act.

3. After the fifth paragraph of the same section the following shall be inserted and shall be deemed to have been inserted from the date on which the said Act came into force, namely:—“With the previous sanction of the Local Government the authorities of any port may, from time to time, contribute a sum from the Port Fund Account of that port for all or any of the purposes mentioned in section sixty.

Further addition to the same section.

“The sum so contributed shall, if, and so long as, the Local Government so directs, be in substitution

of

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of any Hospital Port-dues imposed under section fifty-nine at that port."

Addition to
paragraph 3,
section 59, of
the same
Act.

4. To the third paragraph of section 59 of the same Act the following shall be added, namely:—
"The Local Government may, from time to time, by notification in the official Gazette, cancel any such order".

Amendment
of Schedule I,
Part II, of
the same Act.

5. In the entry relating to the Cuttack ports in Part II of the First Schedule of the same Act, for the words "not exceeding six annas per hundred maunds" the following shall be substituted, namely:—
"Not exceeding four annas per ton".

ACT No. VI OF 1885.

PASSED BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

(Received the assent of the Governor General on the 6th February, 1885.)

An Act to amend Act XXII of 1881.

XXII of
1881.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Excise Act, 1881; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. In section 28 of the said Act, after the words “ten rupees” the words “or who receives an annual remuneration equivalent to such salary” shall be inserted.

Amendment
of section 28
of said Act.

2. In the first paragraph of section 29 of the same Act, after the word “salary” the words “or annual remuneration” shall be inserted; and in the second paragraph of the same section, after the word “rupees” the words “unless the Excise-officer is himself such an officer of police” shall be inserted.

Amendment
of section
29 of same
Act.

3. In the same Act, after section 34, the following section shall be inserted:—

New section
inserted after
section 34 of
same Act.

“34A. The Local Government may, from time to time, invest either by name or in virtue of his office—

Power to invest police-officers with powers of Excise-officers.

“(a) any police-officer with the powers conferred on Excise-officers by section 27 of this Act;

“(b) any police-officer in charge of a station or any police-officer of or above the grade of head-constable or sergeant with the powers conferred on Excise-officers by sections 28 and 29 of this Act.

“Every officer so invested shall, for all purposes connected with the exercise of these powers, be deemed to be an Excise-officer within the meaning of this Act.”

4. For

[Price one anna and three pies.]

New section
substituted
for section 47.

Prosecutions
restricted.

4. For section 47 of the same Act the following shall be substituted, namely:—

“47. A Court shall not take cognizance of an offence punishable under any one of the following sections, namely, thirty-five, thirty-six, thirty-seven, thirty-eight, thirty-nine, forty-one, forty-two and forty-three, except on the complaint or report of the Collector or an Excise-officer; and a Court shall not take cognizance of any offence punishable under this Act unless the prosecution is instituted before the expiry of six months next after the commission of such offence.”

ACT No. VII OF 1885.

PASSED BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

*(Received the assent of the Governor General on the 20th
February, 1885.)*

An Act to amend the law in force in the
Páñch Maháls.

IV of 1874.
V of 1874.
WHEREAS it is expedient that the law in force in
the territory comprised in the Páñch Maháls
should, on and from the first day of May, 1885, be
the same as the law in force in the district of Kaira,
in the Bombay Presidency, and that the said territory
should, on and from that day, cease to be a scheduled
district under the Scheduled Districts Act, 1874, and
the Laws Local Extent Act, 1874; It is hereby
enacted as follows:—

1. This Act may be called the Páñch Maháls Laws Act, 1885. Short title.

2. (1) Save and except the enactments specified in the schedule hereto annexed, all enactments which on the first day of May, 1885, are in force in the district of Kaira and not in the Páñch Maháls shall be deemed to come into force in the Páñch Maháls on that day. Laws of Kaira to apply.

(2) All enactments which on that day are in force in the Páñch Maháls and not in the district of Kaira shall be deemed to be repealed on and from that day in the Páñch Maháls. Other laws repealed.

3. All proceedings commenced before any authority in the Páñch Maháls before the first day of May, 1885, and still pending on that day, shall be disposed of by such authority as the Local Government may direct, and, save as aforesaid, shall be carried on as if this Act had not been passed. Pending proceedings.

4. On

[Price one anna and three pies.]

Pánoch Maháls Laws. [ACT VII, 1885.]

Territory to
cease to be a
scheduled
district.
Partial repeal
of Acts XIV
and XV of
1874.

4. On and from the first day of May, 1885, the Pánoch Maháls shall cease to be a scheduled district; and in Part II of the First Schedule to the Scheduled Districts Act, 1874, and in the same Part of the Sixth Schedule to the Laws Local Extent Act, 1874, the words "The Pánoch Maháls" shall be repealed.

THE SCHEDULE.

ENACTMENTS EXCEPTED FROM THE OPERATION OF SECTION 2.

Acts of the Governor General in Council.

Number and year.	Title.	Extent of exception.
VIII of 1870 ...	For the prevention of the murder of female infants.	The whole.
XXI of 1881 ...	To amend the law providing for the relief of Thákurs in the districts of Bioach and Kaira.	The whole.

Acts of the Governor of Bombay in Council.

Number and year.	Title.	Extent of exception.
V of 1862 ...	For the preservation of the Bhágdári and Narwádári Tenures.	The whole.
V of 1879 ...	To consolidate and amend the law relating to Revenue-officers and the Land-revenue in the Presidency of Bombay.	Section 85 and last fifteen words of section 58.

THE BENGAL TENANCY ACT, 1885.

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SCHEDULE I.—REPEAL OF ENACTMENTS.

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1885.]

ACT No. VIII OF 1885.

PASSED BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

(Received the assent of the Governor General on the 14th March, 1885.)

An Act to amend and consolidate certain enactments relating to the Law of Landlord and Tenant within the territories under the administration of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend and consolidate certain enactments relating to the law of Landlord and Tenant within the territories under the administration of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

CHAPTER I.

PRELIMINARY.

1. (1) This Act may be called the Bengal Tenancy Act, 1885. Short title.

(2) It shall come into force on such date (hereinafter called the commencement of this Act) as the Local Government, with the previous sanction of the Governor General in Council, may, by notification in the local official Gazette, appoint in this behalf. Commencement.

(3) It shall extend by its own operation to all the territories for the time being under the administration of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, except the Town of Calcutta, the Division of Orissa, and the Scheduled Districts specified in the third Part of the First Schedule of the Scheduled Districts Act, 1874; and the Local Government may, with the previous sanction of the Governor General in Council, by notification in the local official Gazette, extend the whole Local extent.

XIV of 1874.

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(Chapter I.—Preliminary.—Secs. 2-3.)

or any portion of this Act to the Division of Orissa or any part thereof.

Repeal.

2. (1) The enactments specified in Schedule I hereto annexed are repealed in the territories to which this Act extends by its own operation.

(2) When this Act is extended to the Division of Orissa or any part thereof, such of those enactments as are in force in that Division or part, or, where a portion only of this Act is so extended, so much of them as is inconsistent with that portion, shall be repealed in that Division or part.

(3) Any enactment or document referring to any enactment hereby repealed shall be construed to refer to this Act or to the corresponding portion thereof.

(4) The repeal of any enactment by this Act shall not revive any right, privilege, matter or thing not in force or existing at the commencement of this Act.

Definitions.

3. In this Act, unless there is something repugnant in the subject or context :—

(1) “Estate” means land included under one entry in any of the general registers of revenue-paying lands and revenue-free lands, prepared and maintained under the law for the time being in force by the Collector of a district, and includes Government khás maháls and revenue-free lands not entered in any register.

(2) “Proprietor” means a person owning, whether in trust or for his own benefit, an estate or a part of an estate.

(3) “Tenant” means a person who holds land under another person, and is, or but for a special contract would be, liable to pay rent for that land to that person.

(4) “Landlord” means a person immediately under whom a tenant holds, and includes the Government.

(5) “Rent”

1885.]

Bengal Tenancy.

(Chapter I.—Preliminary.—Sec. 3.)

(5) “Rent” means whatever is lawfully payable or deliverable in money or kind by a tenant to his landlord on account of the use or occupation of the land held by the tenant :

In sections 53 to 68, both inclusive, sections 72 to 75, both inclusive, Chapter XII and Schedule III of this Act, “rent” includes also money recoverable under any enactment for the time being in force as if it was rent.

(6) “Pay”, “payable” and “payment”, used with reference to rent, include “deliver”, “deliverable” and “delivery”.

(7) “Tenure” means the interest of a tenure-holder or an under-tenure-holder.

(8) “Permanent tenure” means a tenure which is heritable and which is not held for a limited time.

(9) “Holding” means a parcel or parcels of land held by a raiyat and forming the subject of a separate tenancy.

(10) “Village” means an area included in a village map of the revenue-survey within the same exterior boundary, or, where no such maps have been prepared, such area as any officer appointed by the Local Government in this behalf may determine after local inquiry held on such notice as the Local Government considers sufficient for giving information to all persons interested.

(11) “Agricultural year” means, where the Bengali year prevails, the year commencing on the first day of Bysák, where the Faslí or Amlí year prevails, the year commencing on the first day of Asin, and, where any other year prevails for agricultural purposes, that year.

(12) “Permanent Settlement” means the Permanent Settlement of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, made in the year 1793.

(13) “Succession” includes both intestate and testamentary succession.

(14) “Signed”

Bengal Tenancy. [ACT VIII
(Chapter II.—Classes of Tenants.—Sec. 4.)

(14) “Signed” includes “marked” when the person making the mark is unable to write his name; it also includes “stamped” with the name of the person referred to.

(15) “Prescribed” means prescribed from time to time by the Local Government by notification in the official Gazette.

(16) “Collector” means the Collector of a district or any other officer appointed by the Local Government to discharge any of the functions of a Collector under this Act.

(17) “Revenue-officer” in any provision of this Act includes any officer whom the Local Government may appoint by name or by virtue of his office to discharge any of the functions of a Revenue-officer under that provision.

(18) “Registered” means registered under any Act for the time being in force for the registration of documents.

CHAPTER II.

CLASSES OF TENANTS.

Classes of
tenants.

4. There shall be, for the purposes of this Act, the following classes of tenants, (namely):—

- (1) tenure-holders, including under-tenure-holders,
- (2) raiyats, and
- (3) under-raiyats, that is to say, tenants holding whether immediately or mediately under raiyats;

and the following classes of raiyats, (namely):—

- (a) raiyats holding at fixed rates, which expression means raiyats holding either at a rent fixed in perpetuity or at a rate of rent fixed in perpetuity,
- (b) occupancy-

(b) occupancy-raiyats, that is to say, raiyats having a right of occupancy in the land held by them, and

(c) non-occupancy-raiyats, that is to say, raiyats not having such a right of occupancy.

5. (1) “Tenure-holder” means primarily a person who has acquired from a proprietor or from another tenure-holder a right to hold land for the purpose of collecting rents or bringing it under cultivation by establishing tenants on it, and includes also the successors in interest of persons who have acquired such a right. .

Meaning of
“tenure-
holder” and
“raiya.”

(2) “Raiyat” means primarily a person who has acquired a right to hold land for the purpose of cultivating it by himself, or by members of his family, or by hired servants, or with the aid of partners, and includes also the successors in interest of persons who have acquired such a right.

Explanation.—Where a tenant of land has the right to bring it under cultivation, he shall be deemed to have acquired a right to hold it for the purpose of cultivation notwithstanding that he uses it for the purpose of gathering the produce of it or of grazing cattle on it.

(3) A person shall not be deemed to be a raiyat unless he holds land either immediately under a proprietor or immediately under a tenure-holder.

(4) In determining whether a tenant is a tenure-holder or a raiyat, the Court shall have regard to—

(a) local custom ; and

(b) the purpose for which the right of tenancy was originally acquired.

(5) Where the area held by a tenant exceeds one hundred standard bighás, the tenant shall be presumed to be a tenure-holder until the contrary is shewn.

CHAPTER III.

TENURE-HOLDERS.

Enhancement of rent.

Tenure held since Permanent Settlement liable to enhancement only in certain cases.

Enhancement of rent.

6. Where a tenure has been held from the time of the Permanent Settlement, its rent shall not be liable to enhancement except on proof—

- (a) that the landlord under whom it is held is entitled to enhance the rent thereof either by local custom or by the conditions under which the tenure is held, or
- (b) that the tenure-holder, by receiving reductions of his rent, otherwise than on account of a diminution of the area of the tenure, has subjected himself to the payment of the increase demanded, and that the lands are capable of affording it.

Limits of enhancement of rent of tenures

7. (1) Where the rent of a tenure-holder is liable to enhancement, it may, subject to any contract between the parties, be enhanced up to the limit of the customary rate payable by persons holding similar tenures in the vicinity.

(2) Where no such customary rate exists, it may, subject as aforesaid, be enhanced up to such limit as the Court thinks fair and equitable.

(3) In determining what is fair and equitable, the Court shall not leave to the tenure-holder as profit less than ten per centum of the balance which remains after deducting from the gross rents payable to him the expenses of collecting them, and shall have regard to—

- (a) the circumstances under which the tenure was created, for instance, whether the land comprised in the tenure, or a great portion of it, was first brought under cultivation by the agency or at the expense of the tenure-holder or his predecessors in interest, whether any
fine

(Chapter III.—Tenure-holders.—Secs. 8-12.)

fine or premium was paid on the creation of the tenure, and whether the tenure was originally created at a specially low rent for the purpose of reclamation ; and *Enhancement of rent.*

(b) the improvements, if any, made by the tenure-holder or his predecessors in interest.

(4) If the tenure-holder himself occupies any portion of the land included in the area of his tenure, or has made a grant of any portion of the land either rent-free or at a beneficial rent, a fair and equitable rent shall be calculated for that portion and included in the gross rents aforesaid.

8. The Court may, if it thinks that an immediate increase of rent would produce hardship, direct that the enhancement shall be gradual ; that is to say, that the rent shall increase yearly by degrees, for any number of years not exceeding five, until the limit of the enhancement allowed has been reached. *Power to order gradual enhancement*

9. When the rent of a tenure-holder has been enhanced by the Court or by contract, it shall not be again enhanced by the Court during the fifteen years next following the date on which it has been so enhanced. *Rent once enhanced may not be altered for fifteen years*

Other incidents of tenures.

10. A holder of a permanent tenure shall not be ejected by his landlord except on the ground that he has broken a condition on breach of which he is, under the terms of a contract between him and his landlord, liable to be ejected : *Other incidents of tenures.*

Provided that where the contract is made after the commencement of this Act, the condition is consistent with the provisions of this Act.

11. Every permanent tenure shall, subject to the provisions of this Act, be capable of being transferred and bequeathed in the same manner and to the same extent as other immoveable property. *Transfer and transmission of permanent tenure.*

12. (1) A transfer of a permanent tenure by sale, gift or mortgage (other than a transfer by sale in execution *Voluntary transfer of permanent tenure*

(Chapter III.—Tenure-holders.—Secs. 13-14.)

Other incidents of tenures

cution of a decree or by summary sale under any law relating to patni or other tenures) can be made only by a registered instrument.

(2) A registering officer shall not register any instrument purporting or operating to transfer by sale, gift or mortgage a permanent tenure unless there is paid to him, in addition to any fees payable under the Act for the time being in force for the registration of documents, a process-fee of the prescribed amount and a fee (hereinafter called "the landlord's fee") of the following amount, namely:—

(a) when rent is payable in respect of the tenure, a fee of two per centum on the annual rent of the tenure: provided that no such fee shall be less than one rupee or more than one hundred rupees; and

(b) when rent is not payable in respect of the tenure, a fee of two rupees.

(3) When the registration of any such instrument is complete, the registering officer shall send to the Collector the landlord's fee and a notice of the transfer and registration in the prescribed form, and the Collector shall cause the fee to be paid to, and the notice to be served on, the landlord in the prescribed manner.

Transfer of permanent tenure by sale in execution of decree other than decree for rent

13. (1) When a permanent tenure is sold in execution of a decree other than a decree for arrears of rent due in respect thereof, the Court shall, before confirming the sale under section 312 of the Code of Civil Procedure, require the purchaser to pay into Court the landlord's fee prescribed by the last foregoing section and such further fee for service of notice of the sale on the landlord as may be prescribed. XIV

(2) When the sale has been confirmed, the Court shall send to the Collector the landlord's fee and a notice of the sale in the prescribed form, and the Collector shall cause the fee to be paid to, and the notice to be served on, the landlord in the prescribed manner.

Transfer of permanent

14. When a permanent tenure is transferred by sale

(Chapter IV.—*Raiyats holding at fixed rates.*—
Secs. 15-18.)

sale in execution of a decree for arrears of rent due in respect thereof, the Court shall send to the Collector a notice of the sale in the prescribed form.

Other incidents of tenures.
tenure by sale in execution of decree for rent.

15. When a succession to a permanent tenure takes place, the person succeeding shall give notice of the succession to the Collector in the prescribed form, and shall pay to the Collector the prescribed fee for the service of the notice on the landlord and the landlord's fee prescribed by section 12, and the Collector shall cause the landlord's fee to be paid to, and the notice to be served on, the landlord in the prescribed manner.

Succession to permanent tenure.

16. A person becoming entitled to a permanent tenure by succession shall not be entitled to recover by suit, distraint or other proceeding any rent payable to him as the holder of the tenure, until the Collector has received the notice and fees referred to in the last foregoing section.

Bar to recovery of rent pending notice of succession

17. Subject to the provisions of section 88, the foregoing sections shall apply to the transfer of, or succession to, a share in a permanent tenure.

Transfer of, and succession to, share in permanent tenure.

CHAPTER IV.

RAIYATS HOLDING AT FIXED RATES.

18. A raiyat holding at a rent, or rate of rent, fixed in perpetuity

Incidents holding at fixed rates.

- (a) shall be subject to the same provisions with respect to the transfer of, and succession to, his holding as the holder of a permanent tenure, and
- (b) shall not be ejected by his landlord except on the ground that he has broken a condition consistent with this Act, and on breach of which he is, under the terms of a contract between him and his landlord, liable to be ejected.

CHAPTER V.

CHAPTER V.
OCCUPANCY-RAIYATS.

General.

Continuance
of existing
occupancy-
rights.

19. Every raiyat who immediately before the commencement of this Act has, by the operation of any enactment, by custom or otherwise, a right of occupancy in any land shall, when this Act comes into force, have a right of occupancy in that land.

Definition of
'settled
raiyaht'

20. (1) Every person who for a period of twelve years, whether wholly or partly before or after the commencement of this Act, has continuously held as a raiyat land situate in any village, whether under a lease or otherwise, shall be deemed to have become, on the expiration of that period, a settled raiyat of that village.

(2) A person shall be deemed for the purposes of this section to have continuously held land in a village notwithstanding that the particular land held by him has been different at different times.

(3) A person shall be deemed, for the purposes of this section, to have held as a raiyat any land held as a raiyat by a person whose heir he is.

(4) Land held by two or more co-sharers as a raiyat holding shall be deemed, for the purposes of this section, to have been held as a raiyat by each such co-sharer.

(5) A person shall continue to be a settled raiyat of a village as long as he holds any land as a raiyat in that village and for one year thereafter.

(6) If a raiyat recovers possession of land under section 87, he shall be deemed to have continued to be a settled raiyat notwithstanding his having been out of possession more than a year.

(7) If, in any proceeding under this Act, it is proved or admitted that a person holds any land as a raiyat, it shall, as between him and the landlord under whom

whom he holds the land, be presumed for the purposes of this section, until the contrary is proved or admitted, that he has for twelve years continuously held that land or some part of it as a raiyat.

General.

21. (1) Every person who is a settled raiyat of a village within the meaning of the last foregoing section shall have a right of occupancy in all land for the time being held by him as a raiyat in that village.

Settled raiyats to have occupancy-rights.

(2) Every person who, being a settled raiyat of a village within the meaning of the last foregoing section, held land as a raiyat in that village at any time between the second day of March, 1883, and the commencement of this Act, shall be deemed to have acquired a right of occupancy in that land under the law then in force; but nothing in this sub-section shall affect any decree or order passed by a Court before the commencement of this Act.

22. (1) When the immediate landlord of an occupancy-holding is a proprietor or permanent tenure-holder, and the entire interests of the landlord and the raiyat in the holding become united in the same person by transfer, succession or otherwise, the occupancy-right shall cease to exist; but nothing in this sub-section shall prejudicially affect the rights of any third person.

Effect of acquisition of occupancy-right by landlord.

(2) If the occupancy-right in land is transferred to a person jointly interested in the land as proprietor or permanent tenure-holder, it shall cease to exist; but nothing in this sub-section shall prejudicially affect the rights of any third person.

(3) A person holding land as an *ijarádár* or farmer of rents shall not, while so holding, acquire a right of occupancy in any land comprised in his *ijará* or farm.

Explanation.—A person having a right of occupancy in land does not lose it by subsequently becoming jointly interested in the land as proprietor or permanent tenure-holder, or by subsequently holding the land in *ijará* or farm.

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*Incidents of
occupancy-
right.*

Rights of
raiyat in
respect of
use of land.

Obligation of
raiyat to pay
rent.

Protection
from eviction
except on
specified
grounds.

Devolution
of occupancy-
right on
death.

Incidents of occupancy-right.

23. When a raiyat has a right of occupancy in respect of any land, he may use the land in any manner which does not materially impair the value of the land or render it unfit for the purposes of the tenancy; but shall not be entitled to cut down trees in contravention of any local custom.

24. An occupancy-raiyat shall pay rent for his holding at fair and equitable rates.

25. An occupancy-raiyat shall not be ejected by his landlord from his holding, except in execution of a decree for ejectment passed on the ground—

(a) that he has used the land comprised in his holding in a manner which renders it unfit for the purposes of the tenancy, or

(b) that he has broken a condition consistent with the provisions of this Act, and on breach of which he is, under the terms of a contract between himself and his landlord, liable to be ejected.

26. If a raiyat dies intestate in respect of a right of occupancy, it shall, subject to any custom to the contrary, descend in the same manner as other immoveable property: provided that, in any case in which under the law of inheritance to which the raiyat is subject his other property goes to the Crown, his right of occupancy shall be extinguished.

*Enhance-
ment of rent.*

Presumption
as to fair and
equitable
rent.

Restriction
on enhance-
ment of
money-rents.

Enhance-
ment of rent
by contract.

Enhancement of rent.

27. The rent for the time being payable by an occupancy-raiyat shall be presumed to be fair and equitable until the contrary is proved.

28. Where an occupancy-raiyat pays his rent in money, his rent shall not be enhanced except as provided by this Act.

29. The money-rent of an occupancy-raiyat may be

be enhanced by contract, subject to the following conditions :—

Enhancement of rent.

- (a) the contract must be in writing and registered ;
- (b) the rent must not be enhanced so as to exceed by more than two annas in the rupee the rent previously payable by the raiyat ;
- (c) the rent fixed by the contract shall not be liable to enhancement during a term of fifteen years from the date of the contract :

Provided as follows—

- (i) Nothing in clause (a) shall prevent a landlord from recovering rent at the rate at which it has been actually paid for a continuous period of not less than three years immediately preceding the period for which the rent is claimed.
- (ii) Nothing in clause (b) shall apply to a contract by which a raiyat binds himself to pay an enhanced rent in consideration of an improvement which has been or is to be effected in respect of the holding by, or at the expense of, his landlord, and to the benefit of which the raiyat is not otherwise entitled ; but an enhanced rent fixed by such a contract shall be payable only when the improvement has been effected, and, except when the raiyat is chargeable with default in respect of the improvement, only so long as the improvement exists and substantially produces its estimated effect in respect of the holding.
- (iii) When a raiyat has held his land at a specially low rate of rent in consideration of cultivating a particular crop for the convenience of the landlord, nothing in clause (b) shall prevent the raiyat from agreeing, in consideration of his being released from the obligation

tion

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(Chapter V.—Occupancy-raiyats.—Secs. 30-31.)

*Enhance-
ment of rent.*

tion of cultivating that crop, to pay such rent as he may deem fair and equitable.

*Enhance-
ment of rent
by suit.*

30. The landlord of a holding held at a money-rent by an occupancy-raiyat may, subject to the provisions of this Act, institute a suit to enhance the rent on one or more of the following grounds, (namely) :—

- (a) that the rate of rent paid by the raiyat is below the prevailing rate paid by occupancy-raiyats for land of a similar description and with similar advantages in the same village, and that there is no sufficient reason for his holding at so low a rate ;
- (b) that there has been a rise in the average local prices of staple food-crops during the currency of the present rent ;
- (c) that the productive powers of the land held by the raiyat have been increased by an improvement effected by, or at the expense of, the landlord during the currency of the present rent ;
- (d) that the productive powers of the land held by the raiyathave been increased by fluvial action.

Explanation.—“Fluvial action ” includes a change in the course of a river rendering irrigation from the river practicable when it was not previously practicable.

*Rules as to
enhancement
on ground of
prevailing
rate.*

31. Where an enhancement is claimed on the ground that the rate of rent paid is below the prevailing rate—

- (a) in determining what is the prevailing rate the Court shall have regard to the rates generally paid during a period of not less than three years before the institution of the suit, and shall not decree an enhancement unless there is a substantial difference between the rate

rate paid by the raiyat and the prevailing rate found by the Court; *Enhancement of rent.*

- (b) if in the opinion of the Court the prevailing rate of rent cannot be satisfactorily ascertained without a local inquiry, the Court may direct that a local inquiry be held under Chapter XXV of the Code of Civil Procedure by such Revenue-officer as the Local Government may authorise in that behalf by rules made under section 392 of the said Code;
- (c) in determining under this section the rate of rent payable by a raiyat his caste shall not be taken into consideration, unless it is proved that by local custom caste is taken into account in determining the rate; and whenever it is found that by local custom any description of raiyats hold land at favourable rates of rent, the rate shall be determined in accordance with that custom;
- (d) in ascertaining the prevailing rate of rent the amount of any enhancement authorized on account of a landlord's improvement shall not be taken into consideration.

32. Where an enhancement is claimed on the ground of a rise in prices— *Rules as to enhancement on ground of rise in prices.*

- (a) the Court shall compare the average prices during the decennial period immediately preceding the institution of the suit with the average prices during such other decennial period as it may appear equitable and practicable to take for comparison;
- (b) the enhanced rent shall bear to the previous rent the same proportion as the average prices during the last decennial period bear to the average prices during the previous decennial period taken for purposes of comparison: provided that, in calculating this proportion, the average prices during the

later

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(Chapter V.—Occupancy-raiyats.—Secs. 33-34.)

Enhancement of rent.

later period shall be reduced by one-third of their excess over the average prices during the earlier period ;

- (c) if in the opinion of the Court it is not practicable to take the decennial periods prescribed in clause (a), the Court may, in its discretion, substitute any shorter periods therefor.

Rules as to enhancement on ground of landlord's improvement.

33. (1) Where an enhancement is claimed on the ground of a landlord's improvement—

- (a) the Court shall not grant an enhancement unless the improvement has been registered in accordance with this Act ;
- (b) in determining the amount of enhancement the Court shall have regard to—
- (i) the increase in the productive powers of the land caused or likely to be caused by the improvement,
- (ii) the cost of the improvement,
- (iii) the cost of the cultivation required for utilizing the improvement, and
- (iv) the existing rent and the ability of the land to bear a higher rent.

(2) A decree under this section shall, on the application of the tenant or his successor in interest, be subject to re-consideration in the event of the improvement not producing or ceasing to produce the estimated effect.

Rules as to enhancement on ground of increase in productive powers due to fluvial action.

34. Where an enhancement is claimed on the ground of an increase in productive powers due to fluvial action—

- (a) the Court shall not take into account any increase which is merely temporary or casual ;
- (b) the Court may enhance the rent to such an amount as it may deem fair and equitable, but not so as to give the landlord more than one-half of the value of the net increase in the produce of the land.

35. Notwithstanding

35. Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing sections, the Court shall not in any case decree any enhancement which is under the circumstances of the case unfair or inequitable.

Enhancement of rent.

Enhancement by suit to be fair and equitable.

36. If the Court passing a decree for enhancement considers that the immediate enforcement of the decree in its full extent will be attended with hardship to the raiyat, it may direct that the enhancement shall be gradual; that is to say, that the rent shall increase yearly by degrees for any number of years not exceeding five until the limit of the enhancement decreed has been reached.

Power to order progressive enhancement.

37. (1) A suit instituted for the enhancement of the rent of a holding on the ground that the rate of rent paid is below the prevailing rate, or on the ground of a rise in prices, shall not be entertained if within the fifteen years next preceding its institution the rent of the holding has been enhanced by a contract made after the second day of March, 1883, or if within the said period of fifteen years the rent has been commuted under section 40, or a decree has been passed under this Act or any enactment repealed by this Act enhancing the rent on either of the grounds aforesaid or on any ground corresponding thereto or dismissing the suit on the merits.

Limitation of right to bring successive enhancement-suits.

(2) Nothing in this section shall affect the provisions of section 373 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

XIV of 1882.

Reduction of rent.

Reduction of rent.

38. (1) An occupancy-raiyat holding at a money-rent may institute a suit for the reduction of his rent on the following grounds, and, except as hereinafter provided in the case of a diminution of the area of the holding, not otherwise, (namely):—

Reduction of rent.

- (a) on the ground that the soil of the holding has without the fault of the raiyat become permanently deteriorated by a deposit of sand or other specific cause, sudden or gradual, or

(b) on

(Chapter V.—Occupancy-raiyats.—Sec. 39.)

Reduction of rent.

(b) on the ground that there has been a fall, not due to a temporary cause, in the average local prices of staple food-crops during the currency of the present rent.

(2) In any suit instituted under this section, the Court may direct such reduction of the rent as it thinks fair and equitable.

Price-lists.

Price-lists.

Price-lists of staple food-crops.

39. (1) The Collector of every district shall prepare, monthly, or at shorter intervals, periodical lists of the market-prices of staple food-crops grown in such local areas as the Local Government may from time to time direct, and shall submit them to the Board of Revenue for approval or revision.

(2) The Collector may, if so directed by the Local Government, prepare for any local area like price-lists relating to such past times as the Local Government thinks fit, and shall submit the lists so prepared to the Board of Revenue for approval or revision.

(3) The Collector shall, one month before submitting a price-list to the Board of Revenue under this section, publish it in the prescribed manner within the local area to which it relates, and if any landlord or tenant of land within the local area, within the said period of one month, presents to him in writing any objection to the list, he shall submit the same to the Board of Revenue with the list.

(4) The price-lists shall, when approved or revised by the Board of Revenue, be published in the official Gazette; and any manifest error in any such list discovered after its publication may be corrected by the Collector with the sanction of the Board of Revenue.

(5) The Local Government shall cause to be compiled from the periodical lists prepared under this section lists of the average prices prevailing throughout each year, and shall cause them to be published annually in the official Gazette.

(6) In

(Chapter V.—Occupancy-raiyats.—Sec. 40.)

(6) In any proceedings under this chapter for an enhancement or reduction of rent on the ground of a rise or fall in prices, the Court shall refer to the lists published under this section, and shall presume that the prices shown in the lists prepared for any year subsequent to the passing of this Act are correct, unless and until it is proved that they are incorrect. *Price-lists.*

(7) The Local Government, subject to the control of the Governor General in Council, shall make rules for determining what are to be deemed staple food-crops in any local area and for the guidance of officers preparing price-lists under this section.

*Commutation.**Commutation.*

40. (1) Where an occupancy-raiyat pays for a holding rent in kind, or on the estimated value of a portion of the crop, or at rates varying with the crop, or partly in one of those ways and partly in another, either the raiyat or his landlord may apply to have the rent commuted to a money-rent. Commutation of rent payable in kind

(2) The application may be made to the Collector or Sub-divisional Officer, or to an officer making a settlement of rents under Chapter X, or to any other officer specially authorized in this behalf by the Local Government.

(3) On the receipt of the application the officer may determine the sum to be paid as money-rent, and may order that the raiyat shall, in lieu of paying his rent in kind, or otherwise as aforesaid, pay the sum so determined.

(4) In making the determination the officer shall have regard to—

(a) the average money-rent payable by occupancy-raiyats for land of a similar description and with similar advantages in the vicinity ;

(b) the average value of the rent actually received by the landlord during the preceding ten years

*(Chapter VI.—Non-occupancy-raiyats.—
Secs. 41-43.)*

*Commuta-
tion.*

years or during any shorter period for which evidence may be available ; and

(c) the charges incurred by the landlord in respect of irrigation under the system of rent in kind, and the arrangements made on commutation for continuing those charges.

(5) The order shall be in writing, shall state the grounds on which it is made, and the time from which it is to take effect, and shall be subject to appeal in like manner as if it were an order made in an ordinary revenue proceeding.

(6) If the application is opposed, the officer shall consider whether under all the circumstances of the case it is reasonable to grant it, and shall grant or refuse it accordingly. If he refuses it, he shall record in writing the reasons for the refusal.

CHAPTER VI.

NON-OCCUPANCY-RAIYATS.

*Application
of chapter.*

41. This chapter shall apply to raiyats not having a right of occupancy, who are in this Act referred to as non-occupancy-raiyats.

*Initial rent
of non-occu-
pancy-raiyat.*

42. When a non-occupancy-raiyat is admitted to the occupation of land, he shall become liable to pay such rent as may be agreed on between himself and his landlord at the time of his admission.

*Conditions
of enhance-
ment of
rent.*

43. The rent of a non-occupancy-raiyat shall not be enhanced except by registered agreement or by agreement under section 46 :

Provided that nothing in this section shall prevent a landlord from recovering rent at the rate at which it has been actually paid for a continuous period of not less than three years immediately preceding the period for which the rent is claimed.

44. A

(Chapter VI.—Non-occupancy-raiyats.—
Secs. 44-46.)

44. A non-occupancy-raiyat shall, subject to the provisions of this Act, be liable to ejectment on one or more of the following grounds, and not otherwise, (namely) :—

Grounds on which non-occupancy-raiyat may be ejected.

- (a) on the ground that he has failed to pay an arrear of rent ;
- (b) on the ground that he has used the land in a manner which renders it unfit for the purposes of the tenancy, or that he has broken a condition consistent with this Act and on breach of which he is, under the terms of a contract between himself and his landlord, liable to be ejected ;
- (c) where he has been admitted to occupation of the land under a registered lease, on the ground that the term of the lease has expired ;
- (d) on the ground that he has refused to agree to pay a fair and equitable rent determined under section 46, or that the term for which he is entitled to hold at such a rent has expired.

45. A suit for ejectment on the ground of the expiration of the term of a lease shall not be instituted against a non-occupancy-raiyat unless notice to quit has been served on the raiyat not less than six months before the expiration of the term, and shall not be instituted after six months from the expiration of the term.

Conditions of ejectment on ground of expiration of lease.

46. (1) A suit for ejectment on the ground of refusal to agree to an enhancement of rent shall not be instituted against a non-occupancy-raiyat unless the landlord has tendered to the raiyat an agreement to pay the enhanced rent, and the raiyat has within three months before the institution of the suit refused to execute the agreement.

Conditions of ejectment on ground of refusal to agree to enhancement.

(2) A landlord desiring to tender an agreement to a raiyat under this section may file it in the office of

such

*(Chapter VI.—Non-occupancy-raiyats.—
Sec. 46.)*

such Court or officer as the Local Government appoints in this behalf for service on the raiyat. The Court or officer shall forthwith cause it to be served on the raiyat in the prescribed manner, and when it has been so served it shall for the purposes of this section be deemed to have been tendered.

(3) If a raiyat on whom an agreement has been served under sub-section (2) executes it, and within one month from the date of service files it in the office from which it issued, it shall take effect from the commencement of the agricultural year next following.

(4) When an agreement has been executed and filed by a raiyat under sub-section (3), the Court or officer in whose office it is so filed shall forthwith cause a notice of its being so executed and filed to be served on the landlord in the prescribed manner.

(5) If the raiyat does not execute the agreement and file it under sub-section (3), he shall be deemed for the purposes of this section to have refused to execute it.

(6) If a raiyat refuses to execute an agreement tendered to him under this section, and the landlord thereupon institutes a suit to eject him, the Court shall determine what rent is fair and equitable for the holding.

(7) If the raiyat agrees to pay the rent so determined, he shall be entitled to remain in occupation of his holding at that rent for a term of five years from the date of the agreement, but on the expiration of that term shall be liable to ejectment under the conditions mentioned in the last foregoing section, unless he has acquired a right of occupancy.

(8) If the raiyat does not agree to pay the rent so determined, the Court shall pass a decree for ejectment.

(9) In determining what rent is fair and equitable

able, the Court shall have regard to the rents generally paid by raiyats for land of a similar description and with like advantages in the same village.

(10) A decree for ejectment passed under this section shall take effect from the end of the agricultural year in which it is passed.

47. Where a raiyat has been in occupation of land and a lease is executed with a view to a continuance of his occupation, he is not to be deemed to be admitted to occupation by that lease for the purposes of this chapter, notwithstanding that the lease may purport to admit him to occupation.

Explanation
of "admitted
to occupa-
tion".

CHAPTER VII.

UNDER-RAIYATS.

48. The landlord of an under-raiyat holding at a money-rent shall not be entitled to recover rent exceeding the rent which he himself pays by more than the following percentage of the same, (namely) :—

Limit of rent
recoverable
from under-
raiyats.

(a) when the rent payable by the under-raiyat is payable under a registered lease or agreement—fifty per cent. ; and

(b) in any other case—twenty-five per cent.

49. An under-raiyat shall not be liable to be ejected by his landlord, except—

Restriction
on ejectment
of under-
raiyats.

(a) on the expiration of the term of a written lease ;

(b) when holding otherwise than under a written lease, at the end of the agricultural year next following the year in which a notice to quit is served upon him by his landlord.

CHAPTER VIII.

Bengal Tenancy. [ACT VIII
(Chapter VIII.—General Provisions as to Rent.—
Sec. 50.)

CHAPTER VIII.

GENERAL PROVISIONS AS TO RENT.

Rules and presumptions as to amount of rent.

*Rules and
presump-
tions as to
amount of
rent.*

Rules and
presump-
tions as to
fixity of rent.

50. (1) Where a tenure-holder or raiyat and his predecessors in interest have held at a rent or rate of rent which has not been changed from the time of the Permanent Settlement, the rent or rate of rent shall not be liable to be increased except on the ground of an alteration in the area of the tenure or holding.

(2) If it is proved in any suit or other proceeding under this Act that either a tenure-holder or raiyat and his predecessors in interest have held at a rent or rate of rent which has not been changed during the twenty years immediately before the institution of the suit or proceeding, it shall be presumed, until the contrary is shown, that they have held at that rent or rate of rent from the time of the Permanent Settlement :

Provided that if it is required by or under any enactment that in any local area tenancies, or any classes of tenancies, at fixed rents or rates of rent shall be registered as such on, or before, a date specified by or under the enactment, the foregoing presumption shall not after that date apply to any tenancy or, as the case may be, to any tenancy of that class in that local area unless the tenancy has been so registered.

(3) The operation of this section, so far as it relates to land held by a raiyat, shall not be affected by the fact of the land having been separated from other land which formed with it a single holding, or amalgamated with other land into one holding.

(4) Nothing in this section shall apply to a tenure held for a term of years or determinable at the will of the landlord.

51. If

51. If a question arises as to the amount of a tenant's rent or the conditions under which he holds in any agricultural year, he shall be presumed, until the contrary is shown, to hold at the same rent and under the same conditions as in the last preceding agricultural year.

Rules and presumptions as to amount of rent.

Presumption as to amount of rent and conditions of holding.

Alteration of rent on alteration of area.

52. (1) Every tenant shall—

Alteration of rent on alteration of area.

Alteration of rent in respect of alteration in area.

(a) be liable to pay additional rent for all land proved by measurement to be in excess of the area for which rent has been previously paid by him, unless it is proved that the excess is due to the addition to the tenure or holding of land which having previously belonged to the tenure or holding was lost by diluvion or otherwise without any reduction of the rent being made; and

(b) be entitled to a reduction of rent in respect of any deficiency proved by measurement to exist in the area of his tenure or holding as compared with the area for which rent has been previously paid by him, unless it is proved that the deficiency is due to the loss of land which was added to the area of the tenure or holding by alluvion or otherwise, and that an addition has not been made to the rent in respect of the addition to the area.

(2) In determining the area for which rent has been previously paid, the Court shall, if so required by any party to the suit, have regard to—

(a) the origin and conditions of the tenancy, for instance, whether the rent was a consolidated rent for the entire tenure or holding;

(b) whether the tenant has been allowed to hold additional land in consideration of an addi-

tion

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(Chapter VIII.—General Provisions as to Rent.—
Secs. 53-54.)

*Alteration
of rent on
alteration of*

tion to his total rent or otherwise with the knowledge and consent of the landlord ;

(c) the length of time during which the tenancy has lasted without dispute as to rent or area ; and

(d) the length of the measure used or in local use at the time of the origin of the tenancy as compared with that used or in local use at the time of the institution of the suit.

(3) In determining the amount to be added to the rent, the Court shall have regard to the rates payable by tenants of the same class for lands of a similar description, and with similar advantages in the vicinity, and, in the case of a tenure-holder, to the profits to which he is entitled in respect of the rent of his tenure, and shall not in any case fix any rent which under the circumstances of the case is unfair or inequitable.

(4) The amount abated from the rent shall bear the same proportion to the rent previously payable as the diminution of the total yearly value of the tenure or holding bears to the previous total yearly value thereof, or, in default of satisfactory proof of the yearly value of the land lost, shall bear to the rent previously payable the same proportion as the diminution of area bears to the previous area of the tenure or holding.

*Payment of
rent.*

*Instalments
of rent.*

Payment of rent.

53. Subject to agreement or established usage, a money-rent payable by a tenant shall be paid in four equal instalments falling due on the last day of each quarter of the agricultural year.

*Time and
place for
payment of
rent.*

54. (1) Every tenant shall pay each instalment of rent before sunset of the day on which it falls due.

(2) The payment shall, except in cases where a tenant

tenant is allowed under this Act to deposit his rent, be made at the landlord's village-office, or at such other convenient place as may be appointed in that behalf by the landlord :

Payment of rent.

Provided that the Local Government may from time to time make rules, either generally or for any specified local area, authorizing a tenant to pay his rent by postal money-order.

(3) Any instalment or part of an instalment of rent not duly paid at or before the time when it falls due shall be deemed an arrear.

55. (1) When a tenant makes a payment on account of rent, he may declare the year or the year and instalment to which he wishes the payment to be credited, and the payment shall be credited accordingly.

Appropriation of payments.

(2) If he does not make any such declaration, the payment may be credited to the account of such year and instalment as the landlord thinks fit.

Receipts and accounts.

56. (1) Every tenant who makes a payment on account of rent to his landlord shall be entitled to obtain forthwith from the landlord a written receipt for the amount paid by him, signed by the landlord.

Receipts and accounts.

Tenant making payment to his landlord entitled to a receipt.

(2) The landlord shall prepare and retain a counterfoil of the receipt.

(3) The receipt and counterfoil shall specify such of the several particulars shown in the form of receipt given in Schedule II to this Act as can be specified by the landlord at the time of payment :

Provided that the Local Government may, from time to time, prescribe or sanction a modified form either generally or for any particular local area or class of cases.

(4) If a receipt does not contain substantially the particulars required by this section, it shall be presumed,

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(Chapter VIII.—General Provisions as to Rent.—
Secs. 57-58.)

Receipts and accounts.

sumed, until the contrary is shown, to be an acquittance in full of all demands for rent, up to the date on which the receipt was given.

Tenant entitled to full discharge or statement of account at close of year.

57. (1) Where a landlord admits that all rent payable by a tenant to the end of the agricultural year has been paid, the tenant shall be entitled to receive from the landlord, free of charge, within three months after the end of the year, a receipt in full discharge of all rent falling due to the end of the year, signed by the landlord.

(2) Where the landlord does not so admit, the tenant shall be entitled, on paying a fee of four annas, to receive within three months after the end of the year a statement of account specifying the several particulars shown in the form of account given in Schedule II to this Act, or in such other form as may from time to time be prescribed by the Local Government either generally or for any particular local area or class of cases.

(3) The landlord shall prepare and retain a copy of the statement containing similar particulars.

Penalties and fine for withholding receipts and statements of account and failing to keep counterparts.

58. (1) If a landlord without reasonable cause refuses or neglects to deliver to a tenant a receipt containing the particulars prescribed by section 56 for any rent paid by the tenant, the tenant may, within three months from the date of payment, institute a suit to recover from him such penalty, not exceeding double the amount or value of that rent, as the Court thinks fit.

(2) If a landlord without reasonable cause refuses or neglects to deliver to a tenant demanding the same either the receipt in full discharge or, if the tenant is not entitled to such a receipt, the statement of account for any year prescribed in section 57, the tenant may, within the next ensuing agricultural year, institute a suit to recover from him such penalty as the Court thinks fit, not exceeding double the aggregate amount

or

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(Chapter VIII.—General Provisions as to Rent.—
Secs. 59-61.)

or value of all rent paid by the tenant to the landlord during the year for which the receipt or account should have been delivered. *Receipts and accounts.*

(3) If a landlord without reasonable cause fails to prepare and retain a counterfoil or copy of a receipt or statement as required by either of the said sections, he shall be punished with fine which may extend to fifty rupees.

59. (1) The Local Government shall cause to be prepared and kept for sale to landlords at all sub-divisional offices forms of receipts with counterfoils and of statements of account suitable for use under the foregoing sections. *Local Government to prepare forms of receipt and account.*

(2) The forms may be sold in books with the leaves consecutively numbered or otherwise as the Local Government thinks fit.

VII (B.C.) of
1876.

60. Where rent is due to the proprietor, manager or mortgagee of an estate, the receipt of the person registered under the Land Registration Act, 1876, as proprietor, manager or mortgagee of that estate, or of his agent authorized in that behalf, shall be a sufficient discharge for the rent; and the person liable for the rent shall not be entitled to plead in defence to a claim by the person so registered that the rent is due to any third person. *Effect of receipt by registered proprietor, manager or mortgagee.*

But nothing in this section shall affect any remedy which any such third person may have against the registered proprietor, manager or mortgagee.

Deposit of rent.

Deposit of rent.

61. (1) In any of the following cases, namely:—

Application to deposit rent in Court.

(a) when a tenant tenders money on account of rent and the landlord refuses to receive it or refuses to grant a receipt for it;

(b) when a tenant bound to pay money on account of rent has reason to believe, owing to a tender

(Chapter VIII.—General Provisions as to Rent.—
Sec. 62.)

*Deposit of
rent.*

tender having been refused or a receipt withheld on a previous occasion, that the person to whom his rent is payable will not be willing to receive it and to grant him a receipt for it;

(c) when the rent is payable to co-sharers jointly, and the tenant is unable to obtain the joint receipt of the co-sharers for the money, and no person has been empowered to receive the rent on their behalf; or

(d) when the tenant entertains a *bona fide* doubt as to who is entitled to receive the rent,

the tenant may present to the Court having jurisdiction to entertain a suit for the rent of his tenure or holding an application in writing for permission to deposit in the Court the full amount of the money then due.

(2) The application shall contain a statement of the grounds on which it is made; shall state—

in cases (a) and (b), the name of the person to whose credit the deposit is to be entered,

in case (c), the names of the sharers to whom the rent is due, or of so many of them as the tenant may be able to specify, and

in case (d), the names of the person to whom the rent was last paid and of the person or persons now claiming it;

shall be signed and verified, in the manner prescribed in section 52 of the Code of Civil Procedure, by the tenant, or, where he is not personally cognizant of the facts of the case, by some person so cognizant; and shall be accompanied by a fee of such amount as the Local Government, from time to time, by rule, directs.

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*Receipt
granted by
Court for
rent depo-*

• 62. (1) If it appears to the Court to which an application is made under the last foregoing section that the applicant is entitled under that section to deposit

(Chapter VIII.—General Provisions as to Rent.—
Sec. 63.)

deposit the rent, it shall receive the rent and give a receipt for it under the seal of the Court.

*Deposit of
rent.*

(2) A receipt given under this section shall operate as an acquittance for the amount of the rent payable by the tenant and deposited as aforesaid, in the same manner and to the same extent as if that amount of rent had been received—

*sited to be a
valid ac-
quittance.*

in cases (a) and (b) of the last foregoing section, by the person specified in the application as the person to whose credit the deposit was to be entered ;

in case (c) of that section, by the co-sharers to whom the rent is due ; and

in case (d) of that section, by the person entitled to the rent.

63. (1) The Court receiving the deposit shall forthwith cause to be affixed in a conspicuous place at the Court-house a notification of the receipt thereof, containing a statement of all material particulars.

*Notification
of receipt
of deposit.*

(2) If the amount of the deposit is not paid away under the next following section, within the period of fifteen days next following the date on which the notification is so affixed, the Court shall forthwith—

in cases (a) and (b) of section 61, cause a notice of the receipt of the deposit to be served, free of charge, on the person specified in the application as the person to whose credit the deposit was to be entered ;

in case (c) of that section, cause a notice of the receipt of the deposit to be posted at the landlord's village-office or in some conspicuous place in the village in which the holding is situate ; and

in case (d) of that section, cause a like notice to be served, free of charge, on every person who

it

Bengal Tenancy. [ACT VIII
(Chapter VIII.—General Provisions as to Rent.—
Secs. 64-66.)

*Deposit of
rent.*

it has reason to believe claims or is entitled to the deposit.

Payment of
refund of
deposit.

64. (1) The Court may pay the amount of the deposit to any person appearing to it to be entitled to the same, or may, if it thinks fit, retain the amount pending the decision of a Civil Court as to the person so entitled.

(2) The payment may, if the Local Government so direct, be made by postal money-order.

(3) If no payment is made under this section before the expiration of three years from the date on which a deposit is made, the amount deposited may, in the absence of any order of a Civil Court to the contrary, be repaid to the depositor upon his application and on his returning the receipt given by the Court with which the rent was deposited.

(4) No suit or other proceeding shall be instituted against the Secretary of State for India in Council, or against any officer of the Government, in respect of anything done by a Court receiving a deposit under the foregoing sections; but nothing in this section shall prevent any person entitled to receive the amount of any such deposit from recovering the same from a person to whom it has been paid under this section.

*Arrears of
rent.*

Arrears of rent.

Liability to
sale for
arrears in
case of per-
manent ten-
ure, holding
at fixed rates
or occupancy-
holding
Ejectment
for arrears in
other cases.

65. Where a tenant is a permanent tenure-holder, a raiyat holding at fixed rates or an occupancy-raiyat, he shall not be liable to ejectment for arrears of rent, but his tenure or holding shall be liable to sale in execution of a decree for the rent thereof, and the rent shall be a first charge thereon.

66. (1) When an arrear of rent remains due from a tenant not being a permanent tenure-holder, a raiyat holding at fixed rates or an occupancy-raiyat, at the end of the Bengali year where that year prevails, or

at

(Chapter VIII.—General Provisions as to Rent.—
Secs. 67-68.)

at the end of the month of Jeyt where the Fasli or *Arrears of rent.*
Amlí year prevails, the landlord may, whether he has
obtained a decree for the recovery of the arrear or not,
and whether he is entitled by the terms of any con-
tract to eject the tenant for arrears or not, institute a
suit to eject the tenant.

(2) In a suit for ejectment for an arrear of rent
a decree passed in favour of the plaintiff shall specify
the amount of the arrear and of the interest (if any)
due thereon, and the decree shall not be executed if
that amount and the costs of the suit are paid into
Court within fifteen days from the date of the decree,
or, when the Court is closed on the fifteenth day, on
the day upon which the Court re-opens.

(3) The Court may for special reasons extend the
period of fifteen days mentioned in this section.

67. An arrear of rent shall bear simple interest at *Interest on arrears.*
the rate of twelve per centum per annum from the
expiration of that quarter of the agricultural year in
which the instalment falls due to the institution of
the suit.

68. (1) If, in any suit brought for the recovery of *Power to award damages on rent withheld without reasonable cause, or to defendant improperly sued for rent.*
arrears of rent, it appears to the Court that the
defendant has, without reasonable or probable cause,
neglected or refused to pay the amount of rent due
by him, the Court may award to the plaintiff, in addi-
tion to the amount decreed for rent and costs, such
damages, not exceeding twenty-five per centum on
the amount of rent decreed, as it thinks fit:

Provided that interest shall not be decreed when
damages are awarded under this section.

(2) If, in any suit brought for the recovery of
arrears of rent, it appears to the Court that the plain-
tiff has instituted the suit without reasonable or pro-
bable cause, the Court may award to the defendant,
by way of damages, such sum, not exceeding twenty-
five

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(Chapter VIII.—General Provisions as to Rent.—
Secs. 69-70.)

**Arrears of
rent.**

five per centum on the whole amount claimed by the plaintiff, as it thinks fit.

**Produce-
rents.**

Produce-rents.

**Order for
appraising
or dividing
produce.**

69. (1) Where rent is taken by appraisement or division of the produce,—

(a) if either the landlord or the tenant neglects to attend, either personally or by agent, at the proper time for making the appraisement or division, or

(b) if there is a dispute about the quantity, value or division of the produce,

the Collector may, on the application of either party, and on his depositing such sum on account of expenses as the Collector may require, make an order appointing such officer as he thinks fit to appraise or divide the produce.

(2) The Collector may, without such an application, make the like order in any case where in the opinion of the District or Sub-divisional Magistrate the making of the order would be likely to prevent a breach of the peace.

(3) Where a Collector makes an order under this section, he may, by order, prohibit the removal of the produce until the appraisement or division has been effected.

**Procedure
where officer
appointed.**

70. (1) When a Collector appoints an officer under the last foregoing section, the Collector may, in his discretion, direct the officer to associate with himself any other persons as assessors, and may give him instructions regarding the number, qualifications and mode of selection of those assessors (if any), and the procedure to be followed in making the appraisement or division; and the officer shall conform to the instructions so given.

(2) The officer shall, before making an appraisement or division, give notice to the landlord and
tenant

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(Chapter VIII.—General Provisions as to Rent.—
Sec. 71.)

tenant of the time and place at which the appraisement or division will be made; but if either the landlord or the tenant fails to attend either personally or by agent, he may proceed *ex parte*. Produce-rents.

(3) When the officer has made the appraisement or division, he shall submit a report of his proceedings to the Collector.

(4) The Collector shall consider the report, and, after giving the parties an opportunity of being heard and making such enquiry (if any) as he may think necessary, shall pass such order thereon as he thinks just.

(5) The Collector may, if he thinks fit, refer any question in dispute between the parties for the decision of a Civil Court, but, subject as aforesaid, his order shall be final and shall, on application to a Civil Court by the landlord or the tenant, be enforceable as a decree.

(6) Where the officer makes an appraisement, the appraisement papers shall be filed in the Collector's office.

71. (1) Where rent is taken by appraisement of the produce, the tenant shall be entitled to the exclusive possession of the produce. Rights and liabilities as to possession of crop.

(2) Where rent is taken by division of the produce, the tenant shall be entitled to the exclusive possession of the whole produce until it is divided, but shall not be entitled to remove any portion of the produce from the threshing-floor at such a time or in such a manner as to prevent the due division thereof at the proper time.

(3) In either case the tenant shall be entitled to cut and harvest the produce in due course of husbandry without any interference on the part of the landlord.

(4) If the tenant removes any portion of the produce at such a time or in such a manner as to prevent

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(Chapter VIII.—General Provisions as to Rent.—
Secs. 72-75.)

**Produce-
rents.**

prevent the due appraisement or division thereof at the proper time, the produce shall be deemed to have been as full as the fullest crop of the same description appraised in the neighbourhood on similar land for that harvest.

**Liability
for rent on
change of
landlord or
after trans-
fer of tenure
or holding.**

Liability for rent on change of landlord or after transfer of tenure or holding.

Tenant not liable to transferee of landlord's interest for rent paid to former landlord, without notice of the transfer.

72. (1) A tenant shall not, when his landlord's interest is transferred, be liable to the transferee for rent which became due after the transfer and was paid to the landlord whose interest was so transferred, unless the transferee has before the payment given notice of the transfer to the tenant.

(2) Where there is more than one tenant paying rent to the landlord whose interest is transferred, a general notice from the transferee to the tenants published in the prescribed manner shall be a sufficient notice for the purposes of this section.

**Liability for
rent after
transfer of
occupancy-
holding.**

73. When an occupancy-raiyat transfers his holding without the consent of the landlord, the transferor and transferee shall be jointly and severally liable to the landlord for arrears of rent accruing due after the transfer, unless and until notice of the transfer is given to the landlord in the prescribed manner.

**Illegal
cesses, &c.
Abwáb, &c.,
illegal.**

Illegal cesses, &c.

74. All impositions upon tenants under the denomination of *abwáb*, *mahtut*, or other like appellations, in addition to the actual rent, shall be illegal, and all stipulations and reservations for the payment of such shall be void.

**Penalty for
exaction by
landlord from
tenant of
sum in excess
of the rent
payable.**

75. Every tenant from whom, except under any special enactment for the time being in force, any sum of money or any portion of the produce of his land is exacted by his landlord in excess of the rent lawfully payable, may, within six months from the date of the exaction, institute a suit to recover from

the

the landlord, in addition to the amount or value of what is so exacted, such sum by way of penalty as the Court thinks fit, not exceeding two hundred rupees ; or when double the amount or value of what is so exacted exceeds two hundred rupees, not exceeding double that amount or value.

Illegal cases, § c.

CHAPTER IX.

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS AS TO LANDLORDS AND TENANTS.

Improvements.

76. (1) For the purposes of this Act, the term “improvement”, used with reference to a raiyat’s holding, shall mean any work which adds to the value of the holding, which is suitable to the holding and consistent with the purpose for which it was let, and which, if not executed on the holding, is either executed directly for its benefit, or is, after execution, made directly beneficial to it.

Improvements
Definition of
“improvement”.

(2) Until the contrary is shown, the following shall be presumed to be improvements within the meaning of this section :—

(a) the construction of wells, tanks, water-channels and other works for the storage, supply or distribution of water for the purposes of agriculture, or for the use of men and cattle employed in agriculture ;

(b) the preparation of land for irrigation ;

(c) the drainage, reclamation from rivers or other waters, or protection from floods, or from erosion or other damage by water, of land used for agricultural purposes, or waste-land which is culturable ;

(d) the reclamation, clearance, enclosure or permanent improvement of land for agricultural purposes ;

(e) the

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(Chapter IX.—Miscellaneous Provisions as to Land-
lords and Tenants.—Secs. 77-79.)

Improvements.

- (e) the renewal or re-construction of any of the foregoing works, or alterations therein or additions thereto; and
- (f) the erection of a suitable dwelling-house for the raiyat and his family, together with all necessary out-offices.

(3) But no work executed by the raiyat of a holding shall be deemed to be an improvement for the purposes of this Act if it substantially diminishes the value of his landlord's property.

Right to make im-

in case of holding at fixed rates and occupancy-holding.

77. (1) Where a raiyat holds at fixed rates or has an occupancy-right in his holding, neither the raiyat nor his landlord shall, as such, be entitled to prevent the other from making an improvement in respect of the holding, except on the ground that he is willing to make it himself.

(2) If both the raiyat and his landlord wish to make the same improvement, the raiyat shall have the prior right to make it, unless it affects another holding or other holdings under the same landlord.

Collector to decide question as to right to make improvement, &c.

78. If a question arises between the raiyat and his landlord—

- (a) as to the right to make an improvement, or
- (b) as to whether a particular work is an improvement,

the Collector may, on the application of either party, decide the question, and his decision shall be final.

Right to make improvements in case of non-occupancy-holding.

79. (1) A non-occupancy-raiyat shall be entitled to construct, maintain and repair a well for the irrigation of his holding, with all works incidental thereto, and to erect a suitable dwelling-house for himself and his family, with all necessary out-offices; but shall not, except as aforesaid and as next hereinafter provided, be entitled to make any other improvement in respect of his holding without his landlord's permission.

(2) A

(2) A non-occupancy-raiyat who would, but for the want of his landlord's permission, be entitled to make an improvement in respect of his holding, may, if he desires that the improvement be made, deliver, or cause to be delivered, to his landlord a request in writing calling upon him to make the improvement within a reasonable time; and, if the landlord is unable or neglects to comply with that request, may make the improvement himself. *Improvements.*

80. (1) A landlord may, by application to such Revenue-officer as the Local Government may appoint, register any improvement which he has lawfully made or which has been lawfully made at his expense or which he has assisted a tenant in making. *Registration of landlord's improvements.*

(2) The application shall be in such form, shall contain such information, and shall be verified in such manner, by local inquiry or otherwise, as the Local Government from time to time by rule directs.

(3) The officer receiving the application may reject it if it has not been made within twelve months—

(a) in the case of improvements made before the commencement of this Act—from the commencement of this Act;

(b) in the case of improvements made after the commencement of this Act—from the date of the completion of the work.

81. (1) If any landlord or tenant of a holding desires that evidence relating to any improvement made in respect thereof be recorded, he may apply to a Revenue-officer, who shall thereupon, at a time and place of which notice shall be given to the parties, record the evidence, unless he considers that there are no reasonable grounds for making the application, or it is made to appear that the subject-matter thereof is under inquiry in a Civil Court. *Application to record evidence as to improvement.*

(2) When any matter has been recorded under this section, the record thereof shall be admissible

in

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lords and Tenants.—Secs. 82-83.)

*Improve-
ments.*

in evidence in every subsequent proceedings between the landlord and tenant or any persons claiming under them.

*Compensa-
tion for
raiylats' im-
provements.*

82. (1) Every raiyat who is ejected from his holding shall be entitled to compensation for improvements which have been made in respect thereof in accordance with this Act by him, or by his predecessor in interest, and for which compensation has not already been paid.

(2) Whenever a Court makes a decree or order for the ejection of a raiyat, it shall determine the amount of compensation (if any) due under this section to the raiyat for improvements, and shall make the decree or order of ejection conditional on the payment of that amount to the raiyat.

(3) No compensation under this section for an improvement shall be claimable where the raiyat has made the improvement in pursuance of a contract or under a lease binding him, in consideration of some substantial advantage to be obtained by him, to make the improvement without compensation, and he has obtained that advantage.

(4) Improvements made by a raiyat between the 2nd day of March, 1883, and the commencement of this Act shall be deemed to have been made in accordance with this Act.

(5) The Local Government may, from time to time, by notification in the official Gazette, make rules requiring the Court to associate with itself, for the purpose of estimating the compensation to be awarded under this section for an improvement, such number of assessors as the Local Government thinks fit, and determining the qualifications of those assessors and the mode of selecting them.

*Principle on
which com-
pensation is
to be esti-
mated.*

83. (1) In estimating the compensation to be awarded under the last foregoing section for an improvement, regard shall be had

(a) to the amount by which the value, or the produce,

produce, of the holding, or the value of that produce, is increased by the improvement; *Improvements.*

- (b) to the condition of the improvement, and the probable duration of its effects;
- (c) to the labour and capital required for the making of such an improvement;
- (d) to any reduction or remission of rent or any other advantage given by the landlord to the raiyat in consideration of the improvement; and
- (e) in the case of a reclamation or of the conversion of unirrigated into irrigated land, to the length of time during which the raiyat has had the benefit of the improvement at an unenhanced rent.

(2) When the amount of the compensation has been assessed, the Court may, if the landlord and raiyat agree, direct that, instead of being paid wholly in money, it shall be made wholly or partly in some other way.

Acquisition of land for building and other purposes.

84. A Civil Court may, on the application of the landlord of a holding,

and on being satisfied that he is desirous of acquiring the holding or part thereof for some reasonable and sufficient purpose having relation to the good of the holding or of the estate in which it is comprised, including the use of the ground as building ground, or for any religious, educational or charitable purpose,

and on being satisfied on the certificate of the Collector that the purpose is reasonable and sufficient,

authorise the acquisition thereof by the landlord upon such conditions as the Court may think fit, and

Acquisition of land for building and other purposes.

Acquisition of land for building and other purposes.

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(Chapter IX.—*Miscellaneous Provisions as to Land-
lords and Tenants.*—Secs. 85-86.)

*Acquisition
of land for
building and
other pur-
poses.*

and require the tenant to sell his interest in the whole or such part of the holding to the landlord upon such terms as may be approved by the Court, including full compensation to the tenant.

Sub-letting.

Sub-letting.

*Restrictions
on sub-let-
ting.*

85. (1) If a raiyat sub-lets otherwise than by a registered instrument, the sub-lease shall not be valid against his landlord unless made with the landlord's consent.

(2) A sub-lease by a raiyat shall not be admitted to registration if it purports to create a term exceeding nine years.

(3) Where a raiyat has, without the consent of his landlord, granted a sub-lease by an instrument registered before the commencement of this Act, the sub-lease shall not be valid for more than nine years from the commencement of this Act.

*Surrender
and aban-
donment.
Surrender.*

Surrender and abandonment.

86. (1) A raiyat not bound by a lease or other agreement for a fixed period may, at the end of any agricultural year, surrender his holding.

(2) But, notwithstanding the surrender, the raiyat shall be liable to indemnify the landlord against any loss of the rent of the holding for the agricultural year next following the date of the surrender, unless he gives to his landlord, at least three months before he surrenders, notice of his intention to surrender.

(3) When a raiyat has surrendered his holding, the Court shall in the following cases for the purposes of sub-section (2) presume, until the contrary is shown, that such notice was so given, namely :—

(a) if the raiyat takes a new holding in the same village from the same landlord during the agricultural year next following the surrender ;

(b) if

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(Chapter IX.—*Miscellaneous Provisions as to Landlords and Tenants.*—Sec. 87.)

(4) if the raiyat ceases, at least three months before the end of the agricultural year at the end of which the surrender is made, to reside in the village in which the surrendered holding is situate. *Surrender and abandonment.*

(4) The raiyat may, if he thinks fit, cause the notice to be served through the Civil Court within the jurisdiction of which the holding or any portion of it is situate.

(5) When a raiyat has surrendered his holding, the landlord may enter on the holding and either let it to another tenant or take it into cultivation himself.

(6) When a holding is subject to an incumbrance secured by a registered instrument, the surrender of the holding shall not be valid unless it is made with the consent of the landlord and the incumbrancer.

(7) Save as provided in the last foregoing subsection, nothing in this section shall affect any arrangement by which a raiyat and his landlord may arrange for a surrender of the whole or a part of the holding.

87. (1) If a raiyat voluntarily abandons his residence without notice to his landlord and without arranging for payment of his rent as it falls due, and ceases to cultivate his holding either by himself or by some other person, the landlord may, at any time after the expiration of the agricultural year in which the raiyat so abandons and ceases to cultivate, enter on the holding and let it to another tenant or take it into cultivation himself. *Abandonment.*

(2) Before a landlord enters under this section, he shall file a notice in the prescribed form in the Collector's office stating that he has treated the holding as abandoned and is about to enter on it accordingly; and the Collector shall cause a notice to be published in such manner as the Local Government, by rule, directs.

(3) When

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(Chapter IX.—*Miscellaneous Provisions as to Land-
lords and Tenants.*—Secs. 88-90.)

*Surrender
and abandon-
ment.*

(3) When a landlord enters under this section, the raiyat shall be entitled to institute a suit for recovery of possession of the land at any time not later than the expiration of two years, or, in the case of a non-occupancy-raiyat, six months, from the date of the publication of the notice; and thereupon the Court may, on being satisfied that the raiyat did not voluntarily abandon his holding, order recovery of possession on such terms, if any, with respect to compensation to persons injured and payment of arrears of rent as to the Court may seem just.

(4) Where the whole or part of a holding has been sub-let by a registered instrument, the landlord shall, before entering under this section on the holding, offer the whole holding to the sub-lessee for the remainder of the term of the sub-lease at the rent paid by the raiyat who has ceased to cultivate the holding, and on condition of the sub-lessee paying up all arrears due from that raiyat. If the sub-lessee refuses or neglects within a reasonable time to accept the offer, the landlord may avoid the sub-lease and may enter on the holding and let it to another tenant or cultivate it himself as provided in sub-sections (1) and (2).

*Sub-division
of tenancy.*

Division of
tenancy not
binding on
landlord
without his
consent.

Sub-division of tenancy.

88. A division of a tenure or holding, or distribution of the rent payable in respect thereof, shall not be binding on the landlord unless it is made with his consent in writing.

Ejectment.

No ejectment
except in
execution of
decree.

Ejectment.

89. No tenant shall be ejected from his tenure or holding except in execution of a decree.

*Measure-
ments.*

Landlord's
right to mea-
sure land.

Measurements.

90. (1) Subject to the provisions of this section and any contract, a landlord may, by himself, or by any person authorized by him in this behalf, enter on
and

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(Chapter IX.—*Miscellaneous Provisions as to Landlords and Tenants.*—Secs. 91-92.)

and measure all land comprised in his estate or tenure, other than land exempt from the payment of revenue. *Measurements.*

(2) A landlord shall not, without the consent of the tenant, or the written permission of the Collector, be entitled to measure land more than once in ten years, except in the following cases (namely):—

- (a) where the area of the tenure or holding is liable, by reason of alluvion or diluvion, to vary from year to year, and the rent payable depends on the area ;
- (b) where the area under cultivation is liable to vary from year to year and the rent payable depends on the area under cultivation ;
- (c) where the landlord is a purchaser otherwise than by voluntary transfer and not more than two years have elapsed since the date of his entry under the purchase.

(3) The ten years shall be computed from the date of the last measurement, whether made before or after the commencement of this Act.

91. (1) Where a landlord desires to measure any land which he is entitled to measure under the last foregoing section, the Civil Court may, on the application of the landlord, make an order requiring the tenant to attend and point out the boundaries of the land. *Power for Court to order tenant to attend and point out boundaries.*

(2) If the tenant refuses or neglects to comply with the order, a map or other record of the boundaries and measurements of the land, prepared under the direction of the landlord at the time when the tenant was directed to attend, shall be presumed to be correct until the contrary is shown.

92. (1) Every measurement of land made by order of a Civil Court, or of a Revenue-officer, in any suit or proceeding between a landlord and tenant, shall be made by the acre, unless the Court or Revenue-officer *Standard of measurement.*

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(Chapter IX.—*Miscellaneous Provisions as to Land-
lords and Tenants.*—Secs. 93-94.)

*Measure-
ments.*

venue-officer directs that it be made by any other specified standard.

(2) If the rights of the parties are regulated by any local measure other than the acre, the acre shall be converted into the local measure for the purposes of the suit or proceeding.

(3) The Local Government may, after local enquiry, make rules declaring for any local area the standard or standards of measurement locally in use in that area, and every declaration so made shall be presumed to be correct until the contrary is shown.

Managers.

Managers.

Power to call upon co-owners to show cause why they should not appoint a common manager.

93. When any dispute exists between co-owners of an estate or tenure as to the management thereof, and in consequence there has ensued, or is likely to ensue,

(a) inconvenience to the public, or

(b) injury to private rights,

the District Judge may, on the application in case (a) of the Collector, and in case (b) of any one having an interest in the estate or tenure, direct a notice to be served on all the co-owners, calling on them to show cause why they should not appoint a common manager :

Provided that a co-owner of an estate or tenure shall not be entitled to apply under this section unless he is actually in possession of the interest he claims, and, if he is a co-owner of an estate, unless his name and the extent of his interest are registered under the Land Registration Act, 1876.

Power to order them to appoint a manager if cause is not shown.

94. If the co-owners fail to show cause as aforesaid within one month after service of a notice under the last foregoing section, the District Judge may make an order directing them to appoint a common manager, and a copy of the order shall be served on any co-owner who did not appear before it was made.

95. If

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(Chapter IX.—*Miscellaneous Provisions as to Landlords and Tenants.*—Secs. 95-98.)

95. If the co-owners do not, within such period, not being less than one month after the making of an order under the last foregoing section, as the District Judge may fix in this behalf, or, where the order has been served as directed by that section, within a like period after such service, appoint a common manager and report the appointment for the information of the District Judge, the District Judge may, unless it is shown to his satisfaction that there is a prospect of a satisfactory arrangement being made within a reasonable time,—

Managers.
Power to appoint manager if order is not obeyed.

(a) direct that the estate or tenure be managed by the Court of Wards in any case in which the Court of Wards consents to undertake the management thereof; or

(b) in any case appoint a manager.

96. The Local Government may nominate a person for any local area to manage all estates and tenures within that local area for which it may be necessary to appoint a manager under clause (b) of the last foregoing section; and, when any person has been so nominated, no other person shall be appointed manager under that clause by the District Judge, unless in the case of any estate the Judge thinks fit to appoint one of the co-owners themselves as manager.

Power to nominate person to act in all cases under clause (b) of last section.

97. In any case in which the Court of Wards undertakes under section 95 the management of an estate or tenure, so much of the provisions of the Court of Wards Act, 1879, as relates to the management of immoveable property shall apply to the management.

The Court of Wards Act, 1879, applicable to management by Court of Wards.

IX (B. C.) of 1879.

98. (1) A manager appointed under section 95 may, if the District Judge thinks fit, be remunerated by a fixed salary or percentage of the money collected by him as manager, or partly in one way and partly in the other, as the District Judge from time to time directs.

Provisions applicable to manager.

(2) He

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(Chapter X.—*Record-of-rights and Settlement of
Rents.—Secs. 99-101.*)

Managers.

(2) He shall give such security for the proper discharge of his duties as the District Judge directs.

(3) He shall, subject to the control of the District Judge, have, for the purposes of management, the same powers as the co-owners jointly might but for his appointment have exercised, and the co-owners shall not exercise any such power.

(4) He shall deal with and distribute the profits in accordance with the orders of the District Judge.

(5) He shall keep regular accounts, and allow the co-owners or any of them to inspect and take copies of those accounts.

(6) He shall pass his accounts at such period and in such form as the District Judge may direct.

(7) He may make any application which the proprietors could make under section 103.

(8) He shall be removable by the order of the District Judge, and not otherwise.

Power to
restore man-
agement to
co-owners.

99. When an estate or tenure has been placed under the management of the Court of Wards, or a manager has been appointed for the same under section 95, the District Judge may at any time direct that the management of it be restored to the co-owners, if he is satisfied that the management will be conducted by them without inconvenience to the public or injury to private rights.

Power to
make rules.

100. The High Court may, from time to time, make rules defining the powers and duties of managers under the foregoing sections.

CHAPTER X.

RECORD-OF-RIGHTS AND SETTLEMENT OF RENTS.

Power to
order survey
and prepara-
tion of re-

101. (1) The Local Government may, in any case with the previous sanction of the Governor General in Council,

(Chapter X.—Record-of-rights and Settlement of Rents.—Sec. 102.)

Council, and may, if it thinks fit, without such sanction in any of the cases next hereinafter mentioned, make an order directing that a survey be made, and a record-of-rights be prepared, in respect of the lands in a local area by a Revenue-officer.

(2) The cases in which an order may be made under this section without the previous sanction of the Governor General in Council are the following (namely) :—

- (a) where the landlord or a large proportion of the landlords or of the tenants applies for such an order and deposits, or gives security for, such amount, for the payment of expenses, as the Local Government directs ;
- (b) where the preparation of such a record is calculated to settle or avert a serious dispute existing or likely to arise between the tenants and their landlords generally ;
- (c) where the local area is comprised in an estate or tenure which belongs to or is managed by the Government or the Court of Wards ; and
- (d) where a settlement of revenue is being made in respect of the local area.

(3) A notification in the official Gazette of an order under this section shall be conclusive evidence that the order has been duly made.

102. Where an order is made under the last foregoing section, the particulars to be recorded shall be specified in the order, and may include, either without or in addition to other particulars, some or all of the following, namely :—

- (a) the name of each tenant ;
- (b) the class to which he belongs, that is to say, whether he is a tenure-holder, raiyat holding at fixed rates, occupancy-raiyat, non-occupancy-raiyat or under-raiyat, and, if he is a tenure-holder,

cord-of-
rights.

Particulars
to be record
ed.

Bengal Tenancy. [ACT VIII
(Chapter X.—Record-of-rights and Settlement of
Rents.—Secs. 103-104.)

tenure-holder, whether he is a permanent tenure-holder or not, and whether his rent is liable to enhancement during the continuance of his tenure;

- (c) the situation, quantity and boundaries of the land held by him ;
- (d) the name of his landlord ;
- (e) the rent payable ;
- (f) the mode in which that rent has been fixed, whether by contract, by order of a Court, or otherwise ;
- (g) if the rent is a gradually increasing rent, the time at which, and the steps by which, it increases ;
- (h) the special conditions and incidents, if any, of the tenancy.

Power for Revenue-officer to record particulars on application of proprietor or tenure-holder.

103. On the application of a proprietor or tenure-holder, and on his depositing or giving security for the required amount for expenses, a Revenue-officer may, subject to and in accordance with rules made in this behalf by the Local Government, ascertain and record the particulars specified in the last foregoing section with respect to the estate or tenure or any part thereof.

Procedure as to recording or settling rents.

104. (1) When, in any proceeding under this chapter, it does not appear that the tenant is holding land in excess of or less than that for which he is paying rent, and neither the landlord nor the tenant applies for a settlement of rent, the officer shall record the rent payable by the tenant, and the land in respect of which the rent is payable.

(2) When it appears that a tenant is holding land in excess of, or less than, that for which he is paying rent, or either the landlord or the tenant applies for a settlement of rent, or in any case under section 101, sub-section (2), clause (d), the officer shall settle a fair

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Bengal Tenancy.

(Chapter X.—Record-of-rights and Settlement of Rents.—Secs. 105-108.)

fair and equitable rent in respect of the land held by the tenant.

(3) In settling rents under this section, the officer shall presume, until the contrary is proved, that the existing rent is fair and equitable, and shall have regard to the rules laid down in this Act for the guidance of the Civil Court in increasing or reducing rents, as the case may be.

105. (1) When the Revenue-officer has completed a record made under this chapter, he shall cause a draft thereof to be locally published in the prescribed manner and for the prescribed period, and shall receive and consider any objection which may be made to any entry therein during the period of publication.

Publication of record.

(2) After the expiration of this period the Revenue-officer shall finally frame the record, and shall cause it to be locally published in the prescribed manner, and the publication shall be conclusive evidence that the record has been duly made under this chapter.

106. If at any time before the final publication of the record under the last foregoing section a dispute arises as to the correctness of any entry (not being an entry of a rent settled under this chapter), or as to the propriety of any omission, which the Revenue-officer proposes to make or has made therein or therefrom, the Revenue-officer shall hear and decide the dispute.

Procedure case of dispute as to entries in record.

107. In all proceedings for the settlement of rents under this chapter, and in all proceedings under the last foregoing section, the Revenue-officer shall, subject to rules made by the Local Government under this Act, adopt the procedure laid down in the Code of Civil Procedure for the trial of suits, and his decision in every such proceeding shall have the force of a decree.

Procedure to be adopted by Revenue-officer.

XIV of 1882.

108. (1) The Local Government shall appoint one

Appeals from deci-

or

Bengal Tenancy. [ACT VIII
(Chapter X.—*Record-of-rights and Settlement of
Rents.—Secs. 109-111.*)

sions of
Revenue-
officers.

or more persons to be a Special Judge or Special Judges for the purpose of hearing appeals from the decisions of Revenue-officers under this chapter.

(2) An appeal shall lie to the Special Judge from the decision of a Revenue-officer under this chapter, and the provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure relating to appeals shall, as nearly as may be, apply to all such appeals. XIV of 1882

(3) Subject to the provisions of Chapter XLII of the Code of Civil Procedure, an appeal shall lie to the High Court from the decision of a Special Judge in any case under section 106 as if he were a Court subordinate to the High Court within the meaning of the first section of that chapter : XIV of 1882.

Provided that, if in a second appeal the High Court alters the decision of the Special Judge in respect of any of the particulars with reference to which the rent of any tenure or holding has been settled, the Court may settle a new rent for the tenure or holding, but in so doing shall be guided by the rents of the other tenures or holdings of the same class comprised in the same record as ascertained or settled under section 104.

Undisputed
entries in
record to be
presumptive
evidence.

109. (1) Every record made under this chapter shall distinguish between the disputed and the undisputed entries therein.

(2) Every undisputed entry in the record shall be presumed to be correct until the contrary is proved.

Time at
which settle-
ment of rent
is to take
effect.

110. When any rent is settled under this chapter, the settlement shall take effect from the beginning of the agricultural year next after the final publication of the record.

Stay of pro-
ceedings
in Civil Court
during
preparation
of record.

111. When an order has been made under section 101, —

(a) a Civil Court shall not, until the final publication of the record, entertain a suit or application

(Chapter X.—Record-of-rights and Settlement of Rents.—Secs. 112-113.)

application for the alteration of the rent or the determination of the status of any tenant in the area to which the order applies; and

- (b) the High Court may, if it thinks fit, transfer to the Revenue-officer any proceedings pending in a Civil Court for the alteration of any such rent or for the determination of any of the matters specified or referred to in section 102.

112. (1) The Local Government, with the previous sanction of the Governor General in Council, may, on being satisfied that the exercise of the powers hereinafter mentioned is necessary in the interests of public order or of the local welfare, invest a Revenue-officer acting under this chapter with the following powers or either of them, namely :—

Power to authorize a special settlement in special cases.

- (a) power to settle all rents ;
 (b) power, when settling rents, to reduce rents if in the opinion of the officer the maintenance of existing rents would on any ground, whether specified in this Act or not, be unfair or inequitable.

(2) The powers given under this section may be made exerciseable within a specified area either generally or with reference to specified cases or classes of cases.

(3) When the Local Government takes any action under this section, the settlement-record prepared by the Revenue-officer shall not take effect until it has been finally confirmed by the Governor General in Council.

113. When the rent of a tenure or holding is settled under this chapter, it shall not, except on the ground of a landlord's improvement or of a subsequent alteration in the area of the tenure or holding, be enhanced, in the case of a tenure or an occupancy-holding

Period for which rents as settled are to remain unaltered.

[ACT VIII]

Bengal Tenancy.
(Chapter XI.—Record of Proprietors' Private
Lands.—Secs. 114-117.)

holding for fifteen years, and, in the case of a non-occupancy-holding, if the rent is settled in any case under section 112 or on the application of the landlord under section 104, for five years. The periods of fifteen and five years shall be counted from the date of the final publication of the record.

Expenses of proceedings under chapter.

114. Where an order is made under this chapter in any case except under section 101, sub-section (2), clause (d), the expenses incurred by the Government in carrying out the provisions of this chapter in any local area, or such part of those expenses as the Local Government may direct, shall be defrayed by the landlords and tenants of land in that local area, in such proportions as the Local Government, having regard to all the circumstances of each case, may determine; and the proportion of those expenses so to be defrayed by any person shall be recoverable by the Government from him as if it were an arrear of revenue due by him.

Presumption as to fixity of rent not to apply where record has been prepared.

115. When the particulars mentioned in section 102, clause (b), have been recorded under this chapter in respect of any tenancy, the presumption under section 50 shall not thereafter apply to that tenancy.

CHAPTER XI.

RECORD OF PROPRIETORS' PRIVATE LANDS.

Saving as to khámár land.

116. Nothing in Chapter V shall confer a right of occupancy in, and nothing in Chapter VI shall apply to, a proprietor's private lands known in Bengal as khámár, nij or nij-jot, and in Behar as zirát, nij, sir or kamat, where any such land is held under a lease for a term of years or under a lease from year to year.

Power for Government to order survey and record of pro-

117. The Local Government may, from time to time, make an order directing a Revenue-officer to make a survey and record of all the lands in a specified local

local area which are a proprietor's private lands within the meaning of the last foregoing section. pri-
vate lands.

118. In the case of any land alleged to be a proprietor's private land, on the application of the proprietor or of any tenant of the land, and on his depositing the required amount for expenses, a Revenue-officer may, subject to and in accordance with rules made in this behalf by the Local Government, ascertain and record whether the land is or is not a proprietor's private land. Power for
Revenue-offi-
cer to record
private land
on applica-
tion of pro-
priator or
tenant.

119. When a Revenue-officer proceeds under either of the two last foregoing sections, the provisions of sections 105 to 109, both inclusive, shall apply. Procedure
for recording
private land.

120. (1) The Revenue-officer shall record as a proprietor's private land— Rules for
determina-
tion of pro-
priator's pri-
vate land.

(a) land which is proved to have been cultivated as khámár, zirát, sír, nij, nij-jot or kamat by the proprietor himself with his own stock or by his own servants or by hired labour for twelve continuous years immediately before the passing of this Act, and

(b) cultivated land which is recognized by village usage as proprietor's khámár, zirát, sír, nij, nij-jot or kamat.

(2) In determining whether any other land ought to be recorded as a proprietor's private land, the officer shall have regard to local custom, and to the question whether the land was before the second day of March, 1883, specifically let as proprietor's private land, and to any other evidence that may be produced; but shall presume that land is not a proprietor's private land until the contrary is shown.

(3) If any question arises in a Civil Court as to whether land is or is not a proprietor's private land, the Court shall have regard to the rules laid down in this section for the guidance of Revenue-officers.

CHAPTER XII.

CHAPTER XII.

DISTRRAINT.

Cases in which an application for distraint may be made.

121. Where an arrear of rent is due to the landlord of a raiyat or under-raiyat, and has not been due for more than a year, and no security has been accepted therefor by the landlord, the landlord may, in addition to any other remedy to which he is entitled by law, present an application to the Civil Court requesting the Court to recover the arrear by distraint, while in the possession of the cultivator,—

- (a) any crops or other products of the earth standing or ungathered on the holding;
- (b) any crops or other products of the earth which have been grown on the holding and have been reaped or gathered and are deposited on the holding, or on a threshing-floor or place for treading out grain, or the like, whether in the fields or within a homestead :

Provided that an application shall not be made under this section—

- (1) by a proprietor or manager as defined under the Land Registration Act, 1876, or a mortgagee of such a proprietor or manager, unless his name and the extent of his interest in the land in respect of which the arrear is due have been registered under the provisions of that Act; or
- (2) for the recovery of any sum in excess of the rent payable for the holding in the preceding agricultural year, unless that sum is payable under a written contract or in consequence of a proceeding under this Act or an enactment hereby repealed; or
- (3) in respect of the produce of any part of the holding which the tenant has sub-let with the written consent of the landlord.

VII (B.C.) of 1876.

122. (1) Every

122. (1) Every application under the last foregoing section shall specify— Form of application.

- (a) the holding in respect of which the arrear is claimed, and the boundaries thereof, or such other particulars as may suffice for its identification ;
- (b) the name of the tenant ;
- (c) the period in respect of which the arrear is claimed ;
- (d) the amount of the arrear, with the interest, if any, claimed thereon, and, when an amount in excess of the rent payable by the tenant in the last preceding agricultural year is claimed, the contract, or proceeding, as the case may be, under which that amount is payable ;
- (e) the nature and approximate value of the produce to be distrained ;
- (f) the place where it is to be found, or such other particulars as may suffice for its identification ; and
- (g) if it is standing or ungathered, the time at which it is likely to be cut or gathered.

XIV of 1882. (2) The application shall be signed and verified in the manner prescribed by the Code of Civil Procedure for the signing and verification of plaints.

123. (1) The applicant shall, at the time of filing an application under the foregoing sections, file in Court such documentary evidence (if any) as he may consider necessary for the purposes of the application. Procedure on receipt of application.

(2) The Court may, if it thinks fit, examine the applicant, and shall, with as little delay as possible, admit the application or reject it, or permit the applicant to furnish additional evidence in support of it.

(3) Where a Court cannot forthwith admit or reject an application under sub-section (2), it may, if it thinks fit, make an order prohibiting the removal

of

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of the produce specified in the application pending the execution of an order for distraining the same or the rejection of the application.

(4) When an order for distraining any produce is made under this section at a considerable time before the produce is likely to be cut or gathered, the Court may suspend the execution of the order for such time as it thinks fit, and may, if it thinks fit, make a further order prohibiting the removal of the produce pending the execution of the order for distrain.

Execution of
order for
distrain.

124. If an application is admitted under the last foregoing section, the Court shall depute an officer to distrain the produce specified therein, or such portion of that produce as it thinks fit; and the officer shall proceed to the place where the produce is, and distrain the produce by taking charge of it himself or placing some other person in charge of it in his behalf, and publishing a notification of the distrain in accordance with rules to that effect to be made by the High Court:

Provided that produce which from its nature does not admit of being stored shall not be distrained under this section at any time less than twenty days before the time when it would be fit for reaping or gathering.

Service of
demand and
account.

125. (1) The distraining officer shall, at the time of making the distrain, serve on the defaulter a written demand for the arrear due, and the costs incurred in making the distrain, with an account exhibiting the grounds on which the distrain is made.

(2) Where the distraining officer has reason to believe that a person other than the defaulter is the owner of the property distrained, he shall serve copies of the demand and account on that person likewise.

(3) The demand and account shall, if practicable, be served personally; but if a person on whom they are to be served absconds or conceals himself, or cannot otherwise be found, the officer shall affix copies of

of the demand and account on a conspicuous part of the outside of the house in which he usually resides.

126. (1) A distraint under this chapter shall not prevent any person from reaping, gathering or storing any produce, or doing any other act necessary for its due preservation.

Right to
reap, &c.,
produce.

(2) If the person entitled to do so fails to do so at the proper time, the distraining officer shall cause any standing crops or ungathered products distrained to be reaped or gathered when ripe, and stored in such granaries or other places as are commonly used for the purpose, or in some other convenient place in the neighbourhood, or shall do whatever else may be necessary for the due preservation of the same.

(3) In either case the distrained property shall remain in the charge of the distraining officer, or of some other person appointed by him in this behalf.

127. (1) Unless the demand, with all costs of the distraint, be immediately satisfied, the distraining officer shall issue a proclamation specifying the particulars of the property distrained and the demand for which it is distrained, and notifying that he will, at a place and on a day specified, not being less than three or more than seven days after the time of making the distraint, sell the distrained property by public auction :

Sale procla-
mation to be
issued unless
demand is sa-
tisfied.

Provided that when the crops or products distrained from their nature admit of being stored but have not yet been stored, the day of the sale shall be so fixed as to admit of their being made ready for storing before its arrival.

(2) The proclamation shall be stuck up on a conspicuous place in the village in which the land is situate for which the arrears of rent are claimed.

128. The sale shall be held at the place where the distrained property is, or at the nearest place of public resort if the distraining officer is of opinion that it is likely to sell there to better advantage.

Place of sale.

129. (1) Crops

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When produce may be sold standing.

129. (1) Crops or products which from their nature admit of being stored shall not be sold before they are reaped or gathered and are ready for storing.

(2) Crops or products which from their nature do not admit of being stored may be sold before they are reaped or gathered, and the purchaser shall be entitled to enter on the land by himself, or by any person appointed by him in this behalf, and do all that is necessary for the purpose of tending and reaping or gathering them.

Manner of sale.

130. The property shall be sold by public auction, in one or more lots as the officer holding the sale may think advisable; and if the demand, with the costs of distraint and sale, is satisfied by the sale of a portion of the property, the distraint shall be immediately withdrawn with respect to the remainder.

Postponement of sale.

131. If, on the property being put up for sale, a fair price (in the estimation of the officer holding the sale) is not offered for it, and if the owner of the property, or a person authorized to act in his behalf, applies to have the sale postponed till the next day, or (if a market is held at the place of sale) the next market-day, the sale shall be postponed until that day, and shall be then completed, whatever price may be offered for the property.

Payment of purchase-money.

132. The price of every lot shall be paid at the time of sale, or as soon thereafter as the officer holding the sale directs, and in default of such payment the property shall be put up again and sold.

Certificate to be given to purchaser.

133. When the purchase-money has been paid in full, the officer holding the sale shall give the purchaser a certificate describing the property purchased by him and the price paid.

Proceeds of sale how to be applied.

134. (1) From the proceeds of every sale of distrained property under this chapter, the officer holding the sale shall pay the costs of the distraint and sale, calculated on a scale of charges prescribed by rules to be made, from time to time, by the Local Government in this behalf.

(2) The

1885.]

Bengal Tenancy.

(Chapter XII.—Distrain.—Secs. 135-136.)

(2) The remainder shall be applied to the discharge of the arrear for which the distress was made, with interest thereon up to the day of sale; and the surplus (if any) shall be paid to the person whose property has been sold.

135. Officers holding sales of property under this Act, and all persons employed by, or subordinate to, such officers, are prohibited from purchasing, either directly or indirectly, any property sold by such officers.

Certain persons may not purchase.

136. (1) If at any time after a distrain has been made under this chapter, and before the sale of the distrained property, the defaulter, or the owner of the distrained property where he is not the defaulter, deposits in the Court issuing the order of distrain, or in the hands of the distraining officer, the amount specified in the demand served under section 125, with all costs which may have been incurred after the service of the demand, the Court or officer, as the case may be, shall grant a receipt for the same and the distrain shall forthwith be withdrawn.

Procedure where demand is paid before the sale.

(2) When the distraining officer receives the deposit, he shall forthwith pay it into the Court.

(3) A receipt granted under this section to an owner of distrained property not being the defaulter shall afford a full protection to him against any subsequent claim for the arrears of rent on account of which the distrain was made.

(4) After the expiration of one month from the date of a deposit being made under this section, the Court shall pay therefrom to the applicant for distrain the amount due to him, unless in the meanwhile the owner of the property distrained has instituted a suit against the applicant contesting the legality of the distrain and claiming compensation in respect of the same.

(5) A landlord shall not be deemed to have consented to his tenant's sub-letting the holding or any

part

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(Chapter XII.—Distrain.—Secs. 137-140.)

part thereof merely by reason of his having received an amount deposited under this section by an inferior tenant.

Amount paid by under-tenant for his lessor may be deducted from rent.

137. (1) When an inferior tenant, on his property being lawfully distrained under this chapter for the default of a superior tenant, makes any payment under the last foregoing section, he shall be entitled to deduct the amount of that payment from any rent payable by him to his immediate landlord, and that landlord, if he is not the defaulter, shall in like manner be entitled to deduct the amount so deducted from any rent payable by him to his immediate landlord, and so on until the defaulter is reached.

(2) Nothing in this section shall affect the right of an inferior tenant making a payment under the last foregoing section to institute a suit for the recovery from the defaulter of any portion of the amount paid which he has not deducted under this section.

Conflict between rights of superior and inferior landlords.

138. When land is sub-let, and any conflict arises under this chapter between the rights of a superior and of an inferior landlord who distrain the same property, the right of the superior landlord shall prevail.

Distrain of property which is under attachment.

139. When any conflict arises between an order for distrain issued under this chapter and an order issued by a Civil Court for the attachment or sale of the property which is the subject of the distrain, the order for distrain shall prevail; but, if the property is sold under that order, the surplus proceeds of the sale shall not be paid under section 134 to the owner of the property without the sanction of the Court by which the order of attachment or sale was issued.

Suit for compensation for wrongful distrain.

140. No appeal shall lie from any order passed by a Civil Court under this chapter; but any person whose property is distrained on an application made under section 121 in any case in which such an application is not permitted by that section may institute a suit against the applicant for the recovery of compensation.

141. (1) When

141. (1) When the Local Government is of opinion that in any local area or in any class of cases it would, by reason of the character of the cultivation or the habits of the cultivators, be impracticable for a landlord to realize his rent by an application under this chapter to the Civil Court, it may, from time to time, by order, authorize the landlord to distrain, by himself or his agent, any produce for the distraint of which he would be entitled to apply under this chapter to the Civil Court:

Power for Local Government to authorize distraint in certain cases.

Provided that every person distraining any produce under such authorization shall proceed in the manner prescribed by section 124, and shall forthwith give notice, in such form as the High Court may, by rule, prescribe, to the Civil Court having jurisdiction to entertain an application for distraining the produce, and that Court shall, with no avoidable delay, depute an officer to take charge of the produce distrained.

(2) When an officer of the Court has taken charge of any distrained produce under this section, the proceedings shall thereafter be conducted in all respects as if he had distrained it under section 124.

(3) The Local Government may at any time rescind any order made by it under this section.

142. The High Court may, from time to time, make rules consistent with this Act for regulating the procedure in all cases under this chapter.

Power for High Court to make rules.

CHAPTER XIII.

JUDICIAL PROCEDURE.

143. (1) The High Court may, from time to time, with the approval of the Governor General in Council, make rules consistent with this Act declaring that any portions of the Code of Civil Procedure shall not apply to suits between landlord and tenant as such or to any specified classes of such suits, or shall apply

Power to modify Civil Procedure Code in its application to landlord and tenant suits.

to

73

Bengal Tenancy. [ACT VIII
(Chapter XIII.—*Judicial Procedure.*—
Secs. 144-147).

to them subject to modifications specified in the rules.

(2) Subject to any rules so made, and subject also to the other provisions of this Act, the Code of Civil Procedure shall apply to all such suits.

XIV of 1882.

Jurisdiction
in proceed-
ings under
Act.

144. (1) The cause of action in all suits between landlord and tenant as such shall, for the purposes of the Code of Civil Procedure, be deemed to have arisen within the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Civil Court which would have jurisdiction to entertain a suit for the possession of the tenure or holding in connection with which the suit is brought.

XIV of 1882.

(2) When under this Act a Civil Court is authorized to make an order on the application of a landlord or a tenant, the application shall be made to the Court which would have jurisdiction to entertain a suit for the possession of the tenure or holding in connection with which the application is brought.

Náibs or
gumáshtas to
be recognized
agents.

145. Every náib or gumáshta of a landlord empowered in this behalf by a written authority under the hand of the landlord shall, for the purposes of every such suit or application, be deemed to be the recognized agent of the landlord within the meaning of the Code of Civil Procedure, notwithstanding that the landlord may reside within the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Court in which the suit is to be instituted or is pending, or in which the application is made.

XIV of 1882.

Special
register of
suits.

146. The particulars referred to in section 58 of the Code of Civil Procedure shall, in the case of such suits, instead of being entered in the register of civil suits prescribed by that section, be entered in a special register to be kept by each Civil Court, in such form as the Local Government may, from time to time, prescribe in this behalf.

XIV of 1882.

Successive
rent-suits.

147. Subject to the provisions of section 373 of the Code of Civil Procedure, where a landlord has instituted a suit against a raiyat for the recovery of

XIV of 1882.

any

1885.] *Bengal Tenancy.*
(Chapter XIII.—Judicial Procedure.—
Sec. 148.)

any rent of his holding, the landlord shall not institute another suit against him for the recovery of any rent of that holding until after three months from the date of the institution of the previous suit.

148. The following rules shall apply to suits for the recovery of rent :— Procedure in rent-suits.

- XIV of 1882. (a) sections 121 to 127 (both inclusive), 129, 305 and 320 to 326 (both inclusive) of the Code of Civil Procedure shall not apply to any such suit :
- XIV of 1882. (b) the plaint shall contain, in addition to the particulars specified in section 50 of the Code of Civil Procedure, a statement of the situation, designation, extent and boundaries of the land held by the tenant ; or, where the plaintiff is unable to give the extent or boundaries, in lieu thereof a description sufficient for identification :
- (c) the summons shall be for the final disposal of the suit, unless the Court is of opinion that the summons should be for the settlement of issues only :
- XIV of 1866. (d) the service of the summons may, if the High Court by rule, either generally, or specially for any local area, so directs, be effected, either in addition to, or in substitution for, any other mode of service, by forwarding the summons by post in a letter addressed to the defendant and registered under Part III of the Indian Post Office Act, 1866 ;
when a summons is so forwarded in a letter, and it is proved that the letter was duly posted and registered, the Court may presume that the summons has been duly served :
- (e) a written statement shall not be filed without the leave of the Court :

(f) the

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(Chapter XIII.—Judicial Procedure.—
Secs. 149-150.)

- (f) the rules for recording the evidence of witnesses prescribed by section 189 of the Code of Civil Procedure shall apply, whether an appeal is allowed or not : XIV of 1882.
- (g) the Court may, when passing the decree, order on the oral application of the decree-holder the execution thereof, unless it is a decree for ejectment for arrears :
- (h) notwithstanding anything contained in section 232 of the Code of Civil Procedure, an application for the execution of a decree for arrears obtained by a landlord shall not be made by an assignee of the decree unless the landlord's interest in the land has become and is vested in him. XIV of 1882.

Payment
into Court of
money
admitted to
be due to
third person.

149. (1) When a defendant admits that money is due from him on account of rent, but pleads that it is due not to the plaintiff but to a third person, the Court shall, except for special reasons to be recorded in writing, refuse to take cognizance of the plea unless the defendant pays into Court the amount so admitted to be due.

(2) Where such a payment is made, the Court shall forthwith cause notice of the payment to be served on the third person.

(3) Unless the third person within three months from the receipt of the notice institutes a suit against the plaintiff and therein obtains an order restraining payment out of the money, it shall be paid out to the plaintiff on his application.

(4) Nothing in this section shall affect the right of any person to recover from the plaintiff money paid to him under sub-section (3).

Payment
into Court of
money
admitted to
be due to
landlord.

150. When a defendant admits that money is due from him to the plaintiff on account of rent, but pleads that the amount claimed is in excess of the amount due, the Court shall, except for special reasons

to

to be recorded in writing, refuse to take cognizance of the plea unless the defendant pays into Court the amount so admitted to be due.

151. When a defendant is liable to pay money into Court under either of the two last foregoing sections, if the Court thinks that there are sufficient reasons for so ordering, it may take cognizance of the defendant's plea on his paying into Court such reasonable portion of the money as the Court directs.

Provision as to payment of portion of money.

152. When a defendant pays money into Court under either of the said sections, the Court shall give the defendant a receipt, and the receipt so given shall operate as an acquittance in the same manner and to the same extent as if it had been given by the plaintiff or the third person as the case may be.

Court to grant receipt.

153. An appeal shall not lie from any decree or order passed, whether in the first instance or on appeal, in any suit instituted by a landlord for the recovery of rent where—

Appeals in rent-suits.

- (a) the decree or order is passed by a District Judge, Additional Judge or Subordinate Judge, and the amount claimed in the suit does not exceed one hundred rupees, or
- (b) the decree or order is passed by any other judicial officer specially empowered by the Local Government to exercise final jurisdiction under this section, and the amount claimed in the suit does not exceed fifty rupees;

unless in either case the decree or order has decided a question relating to title to land or to some interest in land as between parties having conflicting claims thereto, or a question of a right to enhance or vary the rent of a tenant, or a question of the amount of rent annually payable by a tenant :

Provided that the District Judge may call for the record of any case in which a judicial officer as aforesaid has passed a decree or order to which this section

applies,

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Secs. 154-155.)

applies, if it appears that the judicial officer has exercised a jurisdiction not vested in him by law, or has failed to exercise a jurisdiction so vested, or has acted in the exercise of his jurisdiction illegally or with material irregularity; and may pass such order as the District Judge thinks fit.

Date from which decree for enhancement takes effect.

154. A decree for enhancement of rent under this Act, if passed in a suit instituted in the first eight months of an agricultural year, shall ordinarily take effect on the commencement of the agricultural year next following; and, if passed in a suit instituted in the last four months of the agricultural year, shall ordinarily take effect on the commencement of the agricultural year next but one following; but nothing in this section shall prevent the Court from fixing, for special reasons, a later date from which any such decree shall take effect.

Relief against forfeitures.

155. (1) A suit for the ejectment of a tenant, on the ground—

- (a) that he has used the land in a manner which renders it unfit for the purposes of the tenancy, or
- (b) that he has broken a condition on breach of which he is, under the terms of a contract between him and the landlord, liable to ejectment,

shall not be entertained unless the landlord has served, in the prescribed manner, a notice on the tenant specifying the particular misuse or breach complained of, and, where the misuse or breach is capable of remedy, requiring the tenant to remedy the same, and, in any case, to pay reasonable compensation for the misuse or breach, and the tenant has failed to comply within a reasonable time with that request.

(2) A decree passed in favour of a landlord in any such suit shall declare the amount of compensation which would reasonably be payable to the plaintiff for the misuse or breach, and whether, in the opinion of

of the Court, the misuse or breach is capable of remedy, and shall fix a period during which it shall be open to the defendant to pay that amount to the plaintiff, and, where the misuse or breach is declared to be capable of remedy, to remedy the same.

(3) The Court may, from time to time, for special reasons, extend a period fixed by it under sub-section (2).

(4) If the defendant, within the period or extended period (as the case may be) fixed by the Court under this section, pays the compensation mentioned in the decree, and, where the misuse or breach is declared by the Court to be capable of remedy, remedies the misuse or breach to the satisfaction of the Court, the decree shall not be executed.

156. The following rules shall apply in the case of every raiyat ejected from a holding :—

- (a) when the raiyat has, before the date of his ejectment, sown or planted crops in any land comprised in the holding, he shall be entitled, at the option of the landlord, either to retain possession of that land and to use it for the purpose of tending and gathering in the crops, or to receive from the landlord the value of the crops as estimated by the Court executing the decree for ejectment ;
- (b) when the raiyat has, before the date of his ejectment, prepared for sowing any land comprised in his holding, but has not sown or planted crops in that land, he shall be entitled to receive from the landlord the value of the labour and capital expended by him in so preparing the land, as estimated by the Court executing the decree for ejectment, together with reasonable interest on that value ;
- (c) but a raiyat shall not be entitled to retain possession of any land or receive any sum in

Rights of
ejected
raiylats in
respect of
crops and
land prepared
for sowing.

respect

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(Chapter XIII.—Judicial Procedure.—
***Secs. 157-158.*)**

respect thereof under this section where, after the commencement of proceedings by the landlord for his ejectment, he has cultivated or prepared the land contrary to local usage :

- (d) if the landlord elects under this section to allow a raiyat to retain possession of the land, the raiyat shall pay to the landlord, for the use and occupation of the land during the period for which he is allowed to retain possession of the same, such rent as the Court executing the decree for ejectment may deem reasonable.

Power for Court to fix fair rent as alternative to ejectment.

157. When a plaintiff institutes a suit for the ejectment of a trespasser he may, if he thinks fit, claim as alternative relief that the defendant be declared liable to pay for the land in his possession a fair and equitable rent to be determined by the Court, and the Court may grant such relief accordingly.

Application to determine incidents of tenancy.

158. (1) The Court having jurisdiction to determine a suit for the possession of land may, on the application of either the landlord or the tenant of the land, determine all or any of the following matters, (namely) :—

- (a) the situation, quantity and boundaries of the land ;
- (b) the name and description of the tenant thereof (if any) ;
- (c) the class to which he belongs, that is to say, whether he is a tenure-holder, raiyat holding at fixed rates, occupancy-raiyat, non-occupancy-raiyat, or under-raiyat, and, if he is a tenure-holder, whether he is a permanent tenure-holder or not and whether his rent is liable to enhancement during the continuance of his tenure ; and
- (d) the rent payable by him at the time of the application.

(2) If

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(*Chapter XIV.—Sale for Arrears under Decree.—*
Secs. 159-160.)

IV of 1882.

(2) If, in the opinion of the Court, any of these matters cannot be satisfactorily determined without a local inquiry, the Court may direct that a local inquiry be held under Chapter XXV of the Code of Civil Procedure by such Revenue-officer as the Local Government may authorize in that behalf by rule made under section 392 of the said Code.

(3) The order on any application under this section shall have the effect of, and be subject to the like appeal as, a decree.

CHAPTER XIV.

SALE FOR ARREARS UNDER DECREE.

159. Where a tenure or holding is sold in execution of a decree for arrears due in respect thereof, the purchaser shall take subject to the interests defined in this chapter as “protected interests”, but with power to annul the interests defined in this chapter as “incumbrances”:

General powers of purchaser as to avoidance of incumbrances.

Provided as follows:—

- (a) a registered and notified incumbrance within the meaning of this chapter shall not be so annulled except in the case hereinafter mentioned in that behalf;
- (b) the power to annul shall be exercisable only in manner by this chapter directed.

160. The following shall be deemed to be protected interests within the meaning of this chapter:—

Protected interests.

- (a) any under-tenure existing from the time of the Permanent Settlement;
- (b) any under-tenure recognized by the settlement-proceedings of any current temporary settlement as a tenure at a rent fixed for the period of that settlement;

(c) any

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(Chapter XIV.—Sale for Arrears under Decree.—
Secs. 161-162.)

- (c) any lease of land whereon dwelling-houses, manufactories or other permanent buildings have been erected, or permanent gardens, plantations, tanks, canals, places of worship or burning or burying grounds have been made;
- (d) any right of occupancy;
- (e) the right of a non-occupancy-raiyat to hold for five years at a rent fixed under Chapter VI by a Court, or under Chapter X by a Revenue-officer;
- (f) any right conferred on an occupancy-raiyat to hold at a rent which was a fair and reasonable rent at the time the right was conferred; and
- (g) any right or interest which the landlord at whose instance the tenure or holding is sold, or his predecessor in title, has expressly and in writing given the tenant for the time being permission to create.

Meaning of
 “incum-
 brance” and
 “registered
 and notified
 incum-
 brance”.

161. For the purposes of this chapter—

(a) the term “incumbrance”, used with reference to a tenancy, means any lien, sub-tenancy, easement or other right or interest created by the tenant on his tenure or holding or in limitation of his own interest therein, and not being a protected interest as defined in the last foregoing section;

(b) the term “registered and notified incumbrance”, used with reference to a tenure or holding sold or liable to sale in execution of a decree for an arrear of rent due in respect thereof, means an incumbrance created by a registered instrument of which a copy has, not less than three months before the accrual of the arrear, been served on the landlord in manner hereinafter provided.

Application
 for sale of
 tenure or
 holding.

162. When a decree has been passed for an arrear of rent due for a tenure or holding, and the decree-
 holder

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*(Chapter XIV.—Sale for Arrears under Decree.—
Sec. 163.)*

XIV of 1882. holder applies under section 235 of the Code of Civil Procedure for the attachment and sale of the tenure or holding in execution of the decree, he shall produce a statement showing the parganá, estate and village in which the land comprised in the tenure or holding is situate, the yearly rent payable for the same and the total amount recoverable under the decree.

XIV of 1882. 163. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Code of Civil Procedure, when the decree-holder makes the application mentioned in the last foregoing section, the Court shall, if under section 245 of the said Code it admits the application and orders execution of the decree as applied for, issue simultaneously the order of attachment and the proclamation required by section 287 of the said Code.

Order of attachment and proclamation of sale to be issued simultaneously.

(2) The proclamation shall, in addition to stating and specifying the particulars mentioned in section 287 of the said Code, announce—

(a) in the case of a tenure or a holding of a raiyat holding at fixed rates, that the tenure or holding will first be put up to auction subject to the registered and notified incumbrances, and will be sold subject to those incumbrances if the sum bid is sufficient to liquidate the amount of the decree and costs, and that otherwise it will, if the decree-holder so desires, be sold on a subsequent day, of which due notice will be given, with power to annul all incumbrances; and

(b) in the case of an occupancy-holding, that the holding will be sold with power to annul all incumbrances.

(3) The proclamation shall, besides being made in the manner prescribed by section 289 of the said Code, be published by fixing up a copy thereof in a conspicuous place on the land comprised in the tenure or holding ordered to be sold, and shall also be published

lished

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(Chapter XIV.—Sale for Arrears under Decree.—
Secs. 164-165.)

lished in such manner as the Local Government may, from time to time, direct in this behalf.

(4) Notwithstanding anything contained in section 290 of the said Code, the sale shall not, without the consent in writing of the judgment-debtor, take place until after the expiration of at least thirty days, calculated from the date on which the copy of the proclamation has been fixed up on the land comprised in the tenure or holding ordered to be sold.

Sale of tenure or holding subject to registered and notified incumbrances, and effect thereof.

164. (1) When a tenure or a holding at fixed rates has been advertised for sale under the last foregoing section, it shall be put up to auction, subject to registered and notified incumbrances; and, if the bidding reaches a sum sufficient to liquidate the amount of the decree and costs, including the costs of sale, the tenure or holding shall be sold subject to such incumbrances.

(2) The purchaser at a sale under this section may, in manner provided by section 167, and not otherwise, annul any incumbrance upon the tenure or holding not being a registered and notified incumbrance.

Sale of tenure or holding with power to avoid all incumbrances, and effect thereof.

165. (1) If the bidding for a tenure or a holding at fixed rates put up to auction under the last foregoing section does not reach a sum sufficient to liquidate the amount of the decree and costs as aforesaid, and if the decree-holder thereupon desires that the tenure or holding be sold with power to avoid all incumbrances, the officer holding the sale shall adjourn the sale and make a fresh proclamation under section 289 of the Code of Civil Procedure, announcing that the tenure or holding will be put up to auction and sold with power to avoid all incumbrances upon a future day specified therein, not less than fifteen or more than thirty days from the date of the postponement; and upon that day the tenure or holding shall be put up to auction and sold with power to avoid all incumbrances.

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Bengal Tenancy.

(Chapter XIV.—*Sale for Arrears under Decree.*—
Secs. 166-167.)

(2) The purchaser at a sale under this section may, in manner provided by section 167, and not otherwise, annul any incumbrance on the tenure or holding.

166. (1) When an occupancy-holding has been advertised for sale under section 163, it shall be put up to auction and sold with power to avoid all incumbrances.

Sale of occupancy-holding with power to avoid all incumbrances, and effect thereof.

(2) The purchaser at a sale under this section may, in manner provided by the next following section, and not otherwise, annul any incumbrance on the holding.

167. (1) A purchaser having power to annul an incumbrance under any of the foregoing sections and desiring to annul the same, may, within one year from the date of the sale or the date on which he first has notice of the incumbrance, whichever is later, present to the Collector an application in writing, requesting him to serve on the incumbrancer a notice declaring that the incumbrance is annulled.

Procedure for annulling incumbrances under the foregoing sections.

(2) Every such application must be accompanied by such fee for the service of the notice as the Board of Revenue may fix in this behalf.

(3) When an application for service of a notice is made to the Collector in manner prescribed by this section, he shall cause the notice to be served in compliance therewith, and the incumbrance shall be deemed to be annulled from the date on which it is so served.

(4) When a tenure or holding is sold in execution of a decree for arrears due in respect thereof, and there is on the tenure or holding a protected interest of the kind specified in section 160, clause (c), the purchaser may, if he has power under this chapter to avoid all incumbrances, sue to enhance the rent of the land which is the subject of the protected interest. On proof that the land is held at a rent which was not at the time the lease was granted a fair rent, the

Court

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(Chapter XIV.—Sale for Arrears under Decree.—
Secs. 168-169.)

Court may enhance the rent to such amount as appears to be fair and equitable.

This sub-section shall not apply to land which has been held for a term exceeding twelve years at a fixed rent equal to the rent of good arable land.

Power to direct that occupancy-holdings be dealt with under foregoing sections as tenures.

168. (1) The Local Government may, from time to time, by notification in the official Gazette, direct that occupancy-holdings or any specified class of occupancy-holdings in any local area put up for sale in execution of decrees for rent due on them shall, before being put up with power to avoid all incumbrances, be put up subject to registered and notified incumbrances, and may by like notification rescind any such direction.

(2) While any such direction remains in force in respect of any local area, all occupancy-holdings, or, as the case may be, occupancy-holdings of the specified class in that local area, shall, for the purposes of sale under the foregoing sections of this chapter, be treated in all respects as if they were tenures.

Rules for disposal of the sale-proceeds.

169. (1) In disposing of the proceeds of a sale under this chapter, the following rules, instead of those prescribed by section 295 of the Code of Civil Procedure, shall be observed, that is to say:—

XIV of 1882.

- (a) there shall first be paid to the decree-holder the costs incurred by him in bringing the tenure or holding to sale;
- (b) there shall, in the next place, be paid to the decree-holder the amount due to him under the decree in execution of which the sale was made;
- (c) if there remains a balance after these sums have been paid, there shall be paid to the decree-holder therefrom any rent which may have fallen due to him in respect of the tenure or holding between the institution of the suit and the date of the sale;
- (d) the

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(Chapter XIV.—*Sale for Arrears under Decree.*—
Secs. 170-171.)

(d) the balance (if any) remaining after the payment of the rent mentioned in clause (c) shall, upon the expiration of two months from the confirmation of the sale, be paid to the judgment-debtor upon his application.

(2) If the judgment-debtor disputes the decree-holder's right to receive any sum on account of rent under clause (c), the Court shall determine the dispute, and the determination shall have the force of a decree.

XIV of 1882.

170. (1) Sections 278 to 283 (both inclusive) of the Code of Civil Procedure shall not apply to a tenure or holding attached in execution of a decree for arrears due thereon.

Tenure or holding to be released from attachment only on payment into Court of amount of decrees with costs, or on confession of satisfaction by decree-holder.

(2) When an order for the sale of a tenure or holding in execution of such a decree has been made, the tenure or holding shall not be released from attachment unless, before it is knocked down to the auction-purchaser, the amount of the decree, including the costs decreed, together with the costs incurred in order to the sale, is paid into Court, or the decree-holder makes an application for the release of the tenure or holding on the ground that the decree has been satisfied out of Court.

(3) The judgment-debtor or any person having in the tenure or holding any interest voidable on the sale may pay money into Court under this section.

171. (1) When any person having, in a tenure or holding advertised for sale under this chapter, an interest which would be voidable upon the sale, pays into Court the amount requisite to prevent the sale,—

Amount paid into Court to prevent sale to be in certain cases a mortgage-debt on the tenure or holding.

(a) the amount so paid by him shall be deemed to be a debt bearing interest at twelve per centum per annum and secured by a mortgage of the tenure or holding to him ;

(b) his

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(Chapter XIV.—Sale for Arrears under Decree.—
Secs. 172-173.)

(b) his mortgage shall take priority of every other charge on the tenure or holding other than a charge for arrear of rent; and

(c) he shall be entitled to possession of the tenure or holding as mortgagee of the tenant, and to retain possession of it as such until the debt, with the interest due thereon, has been discharged.

(2) Nothing in this section shall affect any other remedy to which any such person would be entitled.

Inferior
tenant pay-
ing into
Court may
deduct from
rent.

172. When a tenure or holding is advertised for sale under this chapter in execution of a decree against a superior tenant defaulting, and an inferior tenant, whose interest would be voidable upon the sale, pays money into Court in order to prevent the sale, he may, in addition to any other remedy provided for him by law, deduct the whole or any portion of the amount so paid from any rent payable by him to his immediate landlord; and that landlord, if he is not the defaulter, may in like manner deduct the amount so deducted from any rent payable by him to his immediate landlord, and so on until the defaulter is reached.

Decree-holder
may bid at
sale; judg-
ment-debtor
may not.

173. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in section 294 of the Code of Civil Procedure, the holder of a decree in execution of which a tenure or holding is sold under this chapter may, without the permission of the Court, bid for or purchase the tenure or holding.

XIV of 1882.

(2) The judgment-debtor shall not bid for or purchase a tenure or holding so sold.

(3) When a judgment-debtor purchases by himself or through another person a tenure or holding so sold, the Court may, if it thinks fit, on the application of the decree-holder or any other person interested in the sale, by order set aside the sale, and the costs of the application and order, and any deficiency of price which may happen on the re-sale, and all expenses

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Secs. 174-176.)

expenses attending it, shall be paid by the judgment-debtor.

174. (1) Where a tenure or holding is sold for an arrear of rent due thereon, then, at any time within thirty days from the date of sale, the judgment-debtor may apply to have the sale set aside, on his depositing in Court, for payment to the decree-holder, the amount recoverable under the decree with costs, and, for payment to the purchaser, a sum equal to five per centum of the purchase-money.

Application by judgment-debtor to set aside sale.

(2) If such deposit is made within the thirty days, the Court shall pass an order setting aside the sale, and the provisions of section 315 of the Code of Civil Procedure shall apply in the case of a sale so set aside :

XIV of 1882.

Provided that, if a judgment-debtor applies under section 311 of the Code of Civil Procedure to set aside the sale of his tenure or holding, he shall not be entitled to make an application under this section.

XIV of 1882

(3) Section 313 of the Code of Civil Procedure shall not apply to any sale under this chapter.

XIV of 1882.

175. Notwithstanding anything contained in Part IV of the Indian Registration Act, 1877, an instrument creating an incumbrance upon any tenure or holding which has been executed before the commencement of this Act, and is not required by section 17 of the said Registration Act to be registered, shall be accepted for registration under that Act if it is presented for that purpose to the proper officer within one year from the commencement of this Act.

III of 1877.

Registration of certain instruments creating incumbrances.

176. Every officer who has, whether before or after the passing of this Act, registered an instrument executed by a tenant of a tenure or holding and creating an incumbrance on the tenure or holding, shall, at the request of the tenant or of the person in whose favour the incumbrance is created, and on payment by him of such fee as the Local Government may fix in this behalf, notify the incumbrance to the landlord

Notification of incumbrances to landlord.

by

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(Chapter XV.—Contract and Custom.—
Secs. 177-178.)

by causing a copy of the instrument to be served on him in the prescribed manner.

Power to
create in-
cumbrances
not extended.

177. Nothing contained in this chapter shall be deemed to enable a person to create an incumbrance which he could not otherwise lawfully create.

CHAPTER XV.

CONTRACT AND CUSTOM.

Restrictions
on exclusion
of Act by
agreement.

178. (1) Nothing in any contract between a landlord and a tenant made before or after the passing of this Act—

- (a) shall bar in perpetuity the acquisition of an occupancy-right in land, or
- (b) shall take away an occupancy-right in existence at the date of the contract, or
- (c) shall entitle a landlord to eject a tenant otherwise than in accordance with the provisions of this Act, or
- (d) shall take away or limit the right of a tenant, as provided by this Act, to make improvements and claim compensation for them.

(2) Nothing in any contract made between a landlord and a tenant since the 15th day of July, 1880, and before the passing of this Act shall prevent a raiyat from acquiring in accordance with this Act an occupancy-right in land.

(3) Nothing in any contract made between a landlord and a tenant after the passing of this Act shall—

- (a) prevent a raiyat from acquiring in accordance with this Act an occupancy-right in land ;
- (b) take away or limit the right of an occupancy-raiyat to use land as provided by section 23 ;

(c) take

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Sec. 178.)

- (c) take away the right of a raiyat to surrender his holding in accordance with section 86 ;
- (d) take away the right of a raiyat to transfer or bequeath his holding in accordance with local usage ;
- (e) take away the right of an occupancy-raiyat to sub-let subject to and in accordance with the provisions of this Act ;
- (f) take away the right of a raiyat to apply for a reduction of rent under section 38 or section 52 ;
- (g) take away the right of a landlord or a tenant to apply for a commutation of rent under section 40 ; or
- (h) affect the provisions of section 67 relating to interest payable on arrears of rent :

Provided as follows :—

- (i) nothing in this section shall affect the terms or conditions of a lease granted *bonâ fide* for the reclamation of waste land, except that, where, on or after the expiration of the term created by the lease, the lessee would under Chapter V be entitled to an occupancy-right in the land comprised in the lease, nothing in the lease shall prevent him from acquiring that right ;
- (ii) when a landlord has reclaimed waste land by his own servants or hired labourers, and subsequently lets the same or a part thereof to a raiyat, nothing in this Act shall affect the terms of any contract whereby a raiyat is prevented from acquiring an occupancy-right in the land or part during a period of thirty years from the date on which the land or part is first let to a raiyat ;

(iii) nothing

Bengal Tenancy. [ACT VIII
(Chapter XV.—Contract and Custom.—
Secs. 179-180.)

(iii) nothing in this section shall affect the terms or conditions of any contract for the temporary cultivation of orchard land with agricultural crops.

Permanent
mukarrari
leases.

179. Nothing in this Act shall be deemed to prevent a proprietor or a holder of a permanent tenure in a permanently-settled area from granting a permanent mukarrari lease on any terms agreed on between him and his tenant.

Útbandi,
chur and
dearah lands.

180. (1) Notwithstanding anything in this Act, a raiyat—

(a) who in any part of the country where the custom of útbandi prevails, holds land ordinarily let under that custom and for the time being let under that custom, or

(b) who holds land of the kind known as chur or dearah,

shall not acquire a right of occupancy—

in case (a), in land ordinarily held under the custom of útbandi and for the time being held under that custom, or

in case (b), in the chur or dearah land,

until he has held the land in question for twelve continuous years ; and, until he acquires a right of occupancy in the land, he shall be liable to pay such rent for his holding as may be agreed on between him and his landlord.

(2) Chapter VI shall not apply to raiyats holding land under the custom of útbandi in respect of land held by them under that custom.

(3) The Collector may, on the application of either the landlord or the tenant or on a reference from the Civil Court, declare that any land has ceased to be chur or dearah land within the meaning of this section, and thereupon all the provisions of this Act shall apply to the land.

181. Nothing

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Bengal Tenancy.

(Chapter XVI.—Limitation.—Secs. 181-184.)

181. Nothing in this Act shall affect any incident of a ghátwáli or other service-tenure, or, in particular, shall confer a right to transfer or bequeath a service-tenure which, before the passing of this Act, was not capable of being transferred or bequeathed.

Saving as to service tenures.

182. When a raiyat holds his homestead otherwise than as part of his holding as a raiyat, the incidents of his tenancy of the homestead shall be regulated by local custom or usage, and, subject to local custom or usage, by the provisions of this Act applicable to land held by a raiyat.

Homesteads.

183. Nothing in this Act shall affect any custom, usage or customary right not inconsistent with, or not expressly or by necessary implication modified or abolished by, its provisions.

Saving of custom.

Illustrations.

(1) A usage under which a raiyat is entitled to sell his holding without the consent of his landlord is not inconsistent with, and is not expressly or by necessary implication modified or abolished by, the provisions of this Act. That usage, accordingly, wherever it may exist, will not be affected by this Act.

(2) The custom or usage that an under-raiyat should, under certain circumstances, acquire a right of occupancy is not inconsistent with, and is not expressly or by necessary implication modified or abolished by, the provisions of this Act. That custom or usage, accordingly, wherever it exists, will not be affected by this Act.

CHAPTER XVI.

LIMITATION.

184. (1) The suits appeals and applications specified in Schedule III annexed to this Act shall be instituted and made within the time prescribed in that schedule for them respectively ; and every such suit or appeal instituted, and application made, after the period of limitation so prescribed, shall be dismissed, although limitation has not been pleaded.

Limitation in suits, appeals and applications in Schedule III.

(2) Nothing in this section shall revive the right to institute any suit or appeal or make any application which

Bengal Tenancy. [ACT VIII
(Chapter XVII.—Supplemental.—Secs. 185-186.)

which would have been barred by limitation if it had been instituted or made immediately before the commencement of this Act.

Portions of the Indian Limitation Act not applicable to such suits, &c.

185. (1) Sections 7, 8 and 9 of the Indian Limitation Act, 1877, shall not apply to the suits and applications mentioned in the last foregoing section. XV of 1877.

(2) Subject to the provisions of this chapter, the provisions of the Indian Limitation Act, 1877, shall apply to all suits, appeals and applications mentioned in the last foregoing section. XV of 1877.

CHAPTER XVII.

SUPPLEMENTAL.

Penalties.

Penalties.

Penalties for illegal interference with produce.

186. (1) If any person, otherwise than in accordance with this Act or some other enactment for the time being in force,—

- (a) distrains or attempts to distrain the produce of a tenant's holding, or
- (b) resists a distraint duly made under this Act, or forcibly or clandestinely removes any property duly distrained under this Act, or
- (c) except with the authority or consent of the tenant, prevents or attempts to prevent the reaping, gathering, storing, removing or otherwise dealing with any produce of a holding,

he shall be deemed to have committed criminal trespass within the meaning of the Indian Penal Code.

XLV of 1860.

(2) Any person who abets within the meaning of the Indian Penal Code the doing of any act mentioned in sub-section (1), shall be deemed to have abetted the commission of criminal trespass within the meaning of that Code. XLV of 1860.

Agents

*. Agents and representatives of landlords.**Agents and representatives of landlords.*

187. (1) Any appearance, application or act, in, before or to any Court or authority, required or authorized by this Act to be made or done by a landlord, may, unless the Court or authority otherwise directs, be made or done also by an agent empowered in this behalf by a written authority under the hand of the landlord.

Power for landlord to act through agent.

(2) Every notice required by this Act to be served on, or given to, a landlord shall, if served on, or given to, an agent empowered as aforesaid to accept service of or receive the same on behalf of the landlord, be as effectual for the purposes of this Act as if it had been served on, or given to, the landlord in person.

(3) Every document required by this Act to be signed or certified by a landlord, except an instrument appointing or authorizing an agent, may be signed or certified by an agent of the landlord authorized in writing in that behalf.

188. Where two or more persons are joint-landlords, anything which the landlord is under this Act required or authorized to do must be done either by both or all those persons acting together, or by an agent authorized to act on behalf of both or all of them.

Joint-landlords to act collectively or by common agent.

*Rules under Act.**Rules under Act.*

189. The Local Government may, from time to time, by notification in the official Gazette, make rules consistent with this Act—

Power to make rules regarding procedure, powers of officers and service of notices.

(1) to regulate the procedure to be followed by Revenue-officers in the discharge of any duty imposed upon them by or under this Act, and may by such rules confer upon any such officer—

(a) any power exercised by a Civil Court in the trial of suits ;

(b) power to enter upon any land, and

to

Bengal Tenancy. [ACT VIII
(Chapter XVII.—Supplemental.—Sec. 190.)

*Rules under
Act.*

to survey, demarcate and make a map of the same, and any power exercisable by any officer under the Bengal Survey Act, 1875 ; and V (B.C.) of 1875.

(c) power to cut and thresh the crops on any land and weigh the produce, with a view to estimating the capabilities of the soil ; and

(2) to prescribe the mode of service of notices under this Act where no mode is prescribed by this or any other Act.

*Procedure
for making,
publication
and confirm-
ation of
rules.*

190. (1) Every authority having power to make rules under any section of this Act shall, before making the rules, publish a draft of the proposed rules for the information of persons likely to be affected thereby.

(2) The publication shall be made, in the case of rules made by the Local Government or High Court, in such manner as may in its opinion be sufficient for giving information to persons interested, and, in the case of rules made by any other authority, in the prescribed manner :

Provided that every such draft shall be published in the official Gazette.

(3) There shall be published with the draft a notice specifying a date, not earlier than the expiration of one month after the date of publication, at or after which the draft will be taken into consideration.

(4) The authority shall receive and consider any objection or suggestion which may be made by any person with respect to the draft before the date so specified.

(5) The publication in the official Gazette of a rule purporting to be made under this Act shall be conclusive evidence that it has been duly made.

(6) All rules made under this Act may, from time to

to time, subject to the sanction (if any) required for making them, be amended, added to or cancelled by the authority having power to make the same. *Rules under Act.*

Provisions as to temporarily-settled districts.

Provisions as to temporarily-settled districts.

191. Where the area comprised in a tenure is situate in an estate which has never been permanently settled, nothing in this Act shall prevent the enhancement of the rent upon the expiration of a temporary settlement of the revenue, unless the right to hold beyond the term of the settlement at a particular rate of rent has been expressly recognized in settlement-proceedings by a Revenue-authority empowered by the Government to make definitively or confirm settlements.

Saving as to land held in a district not permanently settled.

192. When a landlord grants a lease, or makes any other contract, purporting to entitle the tenant of land not included in an area permanently settled to hold that land free of rent or at a particular rent, and while the lease or contract is in force—

Power to alter rent in case of new assessment of revenue.

(a) land-revenue is for the first time made payable in respect of the land, or

(b) land-revenue having been previously payable in respect of it, a fresh settlement of land-revenue is made,

a Revenue-officer may, notwithstanding anything in the contract between the parties, by order, on the application of the landlord or of the tenant, fix a fair and equitable rent for the land in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

Rights of pasturage, &c.

Rights of pasturage, &c.

193. The provisions of this Act applicable to suits for the recovery of arrears of rent shall, as far as may be, apply to suits for the recovery of anything payable or deliverable in respect of any rights of pasturage, forest-rights, rights over fisheries and the like.

Rights of pasturage forest-rights, &c.

Saving

Bengal Tenancy. [ACT VIII
(Chapter XVII.—Supplemental.—Secs. 194-196.)

Saving for conditions binding on landlords.

Tenant not enabled by Act to violate conditions binding on landlord.

Savings for special enactments.

Savings for special enactments.

Saving for conditions binding on landlords.

194. Where a proprietor or permanent tenure-holder holds his estate or tenure subject to the observance of any specified rule or condition, nothing in this Act shall entitle any person occupying land within the estate or tenure to do any act which involves a violation of that rule or condition.

Savings for special enactments.

195. Nothing in this Act shall affect—

- (a) the powers and duties of Settlement-officers as defined by any law not expressly repealed by this Act;
- (b) any enactment regulating the procedure for the realization of rents in estates belonging to the Government, or under the management of the Court of Wards or of the Revenue-authorities;
- (c) any enactment relating to the avoidance of tenancies and incumbrances by a sale for arrears of the Government revenue;
- (d) any enactment relating to the partition of revenue-paying estates;
- (e) any enactment relating to patni tenures, in so far as it relates to those tenures; or
- (f) any other special or local law not repealed either expressly or by necessary implication by this Act.

Construction of Act.

Act to be read subject to Acts hereafter passed by Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal in Council.

Construction of Act.

196. This Act shall be read subject to every Act passed after its commencement by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal in Council.

SCHEDULE I.

1885.]

Bengal Tenancy.
(*Schedule I.—Repeal of Enactments.*)

SCHEDULE I.

(*See section 2.*)

REPEAL OF ENACTMENTS.

Regulations of the Bengal Code.

Number and year.	Subject of Regulation.	Extent of repeal.
VIII of 1793	A Regulation for re-enacting with modifications and amendments the rules for the Decennial Settlement of the Public Revenue payable from the lands of the zamíndárs, independent taluqdárs and other actual proprietors of land in Bengal, Behar and Orissa, passed for those Provinces respectively on the 18th September, 1789, the 25th November, 1789, and the 10th February, 1790, and subsequent dates.	Sections 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 64 and 65.
XII of 1805	A Regulation for the settlement and collection of the Public Revenue in the zila of Cuttack, including the parganás of Pattáspur, Kunmadichour, and Bagrae, at present included in the zila of Midnapur.	Section 7.
V of 1812	A Regulation for amending some of the rules at present in force for the collection of the Land-revenue.	Sections 2, 3, 4, 26 and 27.
XVIII of 1812	A Regulation for explaining Section 2, Regulation V, 1812, and rescinding Sections 3 and 4, Regulation XLIV, 1793, and Sections 3 and 4, Regulation L, 1795, and enacting other rules in lieu thereof.	The preamble and sections 2 and 3.
XI of 1825	A Regulation for declaring the rules to be observed in determining claims to lands gained by alluvion or by dereliction of a river or the sea.	In clause 1 of section 4, from and including the words "nor if annexed to a subordinate tenure" to the end of the clause.

Bengal Tenancy. [ACT VIII
(Schedule I.—Repeal of Enactments.)

Acts of the Bengal Council.

Number and year.	Subject of Act.	Extent of repeal.
VI of 1862	An Act to amend Act X of 1859 (to amend the law relating to the recovery of rent in the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal).	The whole Act.
IV of 1867	An Act to explain and amend Act VI of 1862, passed by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal in Council, and to give validity to certain judgments.	The whole Act.
VIII of 1869	An Act to amend the Procedure in suits between Landlords and Tenants.	The whole Act.
VIII of 1879	An Act to define and limit the powers of Settlement-officers.	The whole Act.

Act of the Governor General in Council.

Number and year.	Subject of Act.	Extent of repeal.
X of 1859	An Act to amend the law relating to the recovery of rent in the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal.	The whole Act.

1885.]

Bengal Tenancy.

(Schedule II.—Forms of Receipt and Account.)

SCHEDULE II.

FORMS OF RECEIPT AND ACCOUNT.

(See sections 56 and 57.)

FORM OF RECEIPT.

FORM OF RECEIPT.

PARTICULARS OF THE HOLDING (LANDLORD'S PORTION).

PARTICULARS OF THE HOLDING (TENANT'S PORTION).

1. Serial number of Receipt

1. Serial number of Receipt

2. Estate ; Village ; Tháná

2. Estate ; Village ; Tháná

3. Tenant's name , Son of

3. Tenant's name , Son of

4. Particulars of the holding—

4. Particulars of the holding—

Nukáí, Bighás ; rent Rs.

Nukáí, Bighás ; rent Rs.

Baouli, Bighás ; Maunds or Rs.

Baouli, Bighás ; Maunds ; or Rs.

{ Julkur, Rs.

{ Julkur, Rs.

{ Bunkur, Rs.

{ Bunkur, Rs.

{ Phulkur, Rs.

{ Phulkur, Rs.

{ Road Cess, Rs.

{ Road Cess, Rs.

Government Cesses { Public Works Cess, Rs.

Government Cesses { Public Works Cess, Rs.

5. Signature of the Landlord or his Authorized Agent

5. Signature of the Landlord or his Authorized Agent

Section 55 of the Bengal Tenancy Act, 1885, provides as follows :—

(1) When a tenant makes a payment on account of rent, he may declare the year and instalment to which he wishes the payment to be credited, and the payment shall be credited accordingly.

(2) If he does not make any such declaration, the payment may be credited to the account of such year and instalment as the landlord thinks fit.

FORM OF ACCOUNT.

1. Year			
2. Tenant's name			
3. Particulars of holding—(area, rent, &c.)	Bighás	Rate	R. A P.
<i>Nahádi</i>			
Government Cesses	Bighás	Maunds	Rs. A P.
<i>Baouí</i>			
Julkur	...	...	...
Bunkur	..	...	...
Phulkur	...	...	...
		Maunds	Rs. A P.
4 Demand of the year	..	..	..
5. Balance of former years (Bakaya)	...	...	...
<hr/>			
6. Total demand (current and arrear)	...	...	Rs. A P.
7. Paid each on account of {	Current demand	...	...
	Arrear demand	...	...
	Maunds	...	...
8. Paid in kind	...	...	...
<hr/>			
9. Balance outstanding at end of year	...	...	Rs. A P.
10. Signature of the Landlord or his authorized Agent.			

1985.]

Bengal Tenancy.

(Schedule II.—Forms of Receipt and Account.)

FORM OF ACCOUNT.

1. Year			
2. Tenant's name			
3. Particulars of holding—(area, rent, &c.)	Bighás	Rate	Rs. A P.
<i>Nahádi</i>			
Government Cesses	Bighás	Maunds	Rs. A P.
<i>Baouí</i>			
Julkur	...	...	...
Bunkur	..	..	...
Phulkur	...	...	...
		Maunds	Rs. A P.
4. Demand of the year	...	...	...
5. Balance of former years (Bakaya)	...	...	...
<hr/>			
6. Total demand (current and arrear)	...	...	Rs. A P.
7. Paid each on account of {	Current demand	...	...
	Arrear demand	...	...
	Maunds	...	...
8. Paid in kind	...	...	...
<hr/>			
9. Balance outstanding at end of year	...	...	Rs. A P.
10. Signature of the Landlord or his authorized Agent.			

Bengal Tenancy.
(*Schedule III.—Limitation.*)

[ACT VIII

SCHEDULE III.

LIMITATION.

(*See section 184.*)

PART I.—Suits.

Description of Suit.	Period of Limitation.	Time from which period begins to run.
1. To eject any tenure-holder or raiyat on account of any breach of a condition in respect of which there is a contract expressly providing that ejectment shall be the penalty of such breach.	One year	The date of the breach.
2. For the recovery of an arrear of rent—		
(a) when the arrear fell due before a deposit was made under section 61 on account of the rent of the same holding.	Six months.	The date of the service of notice of the deposit.
(b) in other cases	Three years.	The last day of the Bengali year in which the arrear fell due, where that year prevails, and the last day of the month of Jeyt of the Amli or Fasli year in which the arrear fell due, where either of those years prevails.
3. To recover possession of land claimed by the plaintiff as an occupancy-raiyat.	Two years	The date of dispossession.

PART II.—Appeals.

Description of Appeal.	Period of Limitation.	Time from which period begins to run.
4. From any decree or order under this Act, to the Court of a District Judge or Special Judge.	Thirty days.	The date of the decree or order appealed against.
5. From any order of a Collector under this Act, to the Commissioner.	Thirty days.	The date of the order appealed against.

1885.]

Bengal Tenancy.
(*Schedule III.—Limitation.*)

PART III.—*Applications.*

Description of Application.	Period of Limitation.	Time from which period begins to run.
<p>6. For the execution of a decree or order made under this Act, or any Act repealed by this Act, and not being a decree for a sum of money exceeding Rs. 500, exclusive of any interest which may have accrued after decree upon the sum decreed, but inclusive of the costs of executing such decree; except where the judgment-debtor has by fraud or force prevented the execution of the decree, in which case the period of limitation shall be governed by the provisions of the Indian Limitation Act, 1877.</p>	Three years .	<p>(1) The date of the decree or order; or (2) where there has been an appeal, the date of the final decree or order of the Appellate Court; or (3) where there has been a review of judgment, the date of the decision passed on the review.</p>

XV of 1877.

ACT No. IX OF 1885.

PASSED BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

(Received the assent of the Governor General on the 29th May, 1885.)

An Act to repeal part of section 6 of the Indian Tariff Act, 1882, and to amend the Excise Act, 1881, the Bengal Excise Act, 1878, and the Sea Customs Act, 1878.

WHEREAS it is expedient to repeal part of section 6 of the Indian Tariff Act, 1882, and to amend section 7 of the Excise Act, 1881, section 18 of the Bengal Excise Act, 1878, and sections 145, 149 and 207 of the Sea Customs Act, 1878, in manner hereinafter appearing; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

XI of 1882.
XXII of 1881.
Beng. Act VII of 1878.
VIII of 1878.

XI of 1882.

1. The part of section 6 of the Indian Tariff Act, 1882, beginning with the words "And whereas", down to and including the words "been paid", is repealed.

Repeal of part of section 6 of Act XI of 1882.

XXII of 1881.

2. For clause (a) of section 7 of the Excise Act, 1881, the following clause shall be substituted:—

Amendment of section 7 of Act XXII of 1881.

"(a) such duty as the Local Government may from time to time fix in respect of such spirit has been paid, or".

Beng. Act VII of 1878.

3. In section 18 of the Bengal Excise Act, 1878, for the words "at the rate leviable under any Tariff Act for the time being in force" the words "at such rate as the Local Government may from time to time fix in respect of such spirituous liquor" shall be substituted; but nothing in this section shall affect any Act passed after this Act comes into force by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal in Council.

Amendment of section 18 of Bengal Act VII of 1878.

XI of 1882.

4. The duty now fixed by the Local Government under section 6 of the Indian Tariff Act, 1882, as leviable

Saving of duties already fixed

[Price one anna and three pies.]

Tariff; Excise; Sea Customs. [ACT IX, 1885.]

- under section
4 of Act XI
of 1882. leviable on spirit manufactured in all or any of the
distilleries situate in the territories under its adminis-
tration, or in any part of such territories, shall, in
places in which the Excise Act, 1881, or the Ben- XXII of
Excise Act, 1878, is in force, be deemed to be the 1881.
duty fixed by the Local Government under sections Beng. Act
7 and 18 of those Acts, as amended by this Act, re- VII of 1878.
spectively.
- Amendment
of sections
145 and
149 of Act
VIII of
1878. 5. (1) In section 145 of the Sea Customs Act, VIII of 1878.
1878, after the word "shall" the words "except when
provision is made by any enactment for the time
being in force for its being intermediately deposited
in a licensed warehouse" shall be inserted.
- 4 (2) In section 149 of the same Act, after the words
"custom-house" the words "or to a warehouse
licensed under any enactment for the time being in
force" shall be inserted.
- Amendment
of section
207 of the
same Act. 6. In section 207 of the same Act, for the word
"respectively" the words "or any like body hereafter
created for any other port" shall be substituted.

ACT No. X OF 1885.

PASSED BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

(Received the assent of the Governor General on the 12th June, 1885.)

An Act to amend the Oudh Estates Act, 1869.

I of 1869.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Oudh Estates Act, 1869; It is hereby enacted as follows :—

1. Subject to the saving in section 2 of this Act, for the definition of “registered” in section 2 of the said Act there shall be deemed to have been substituted from the date of the passing of the said Act the following definition, namely :—

Amendment of definition of “registered” in section 2 of Act I of 1869.

“ ‘Registered’ means—

“Registered.”

“(a) in the case of a will, registered according to the law for the time being in force relating to the registration of assurances, or deposited with a Registrar according to the law for the time being in force relating to the deposit of wills; and

“(b) in the case of any other instrument, registered according to the law for the time being in force relating to the registration of assurances.”

2. Nothing in section 1 shall affect any will—

Saving of certain wills.

(a) declared by a judicial decision pronounced before the passing of this Act to be invalid on the ground that it was not registered in accordance with the provisions of the said Act; or

(b) of which the validity is at the time of the passing of this Act being questioned on that ground in a suit commenced before the twenty-third day of October, 1884.

[Price one anna.]

ACT NO. XI OF 1885.

PASSED BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

(Received the assent of the Governor General on the 10th July, 1885.)

An Act to correct an error in the Burma Municipal Act, 1884.

XVII of
1884

WHEREAS it is expedient to correct an error in the Burma Municipal Act, 1884; It is hereby enacted as follows :—

(1) In section 58 of the said Act, for the word “occupation” the word “possession” shall be substituted.

(2) The substitution made by sub-section (1) shall be deemed to have been made from the date on which the said Act came into force.

[*Price one anna*]

ACT No. XII OF 1885.

PASSED BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

(Received the assent of the Governor General on the 22nd July, 1885.)

An Act to amend the law relating to the carriage of passengers by sea.

18 & 19 Vic.,
c. 119.

WHEREAS by section 99 of an Act of the Imperial Parliament called "The Passengers Act, 1855," it is enacted that "it shall be lawful for the Governor General of India in Council, from time to time, by any Act or Acts to be passed for that purpose, to declare that this Act or any part thereof shall apply to the carriage of passengers upon any voyage, from any ports or places within the territories of British India, to be specified in such Act or Acts, to any other places whatsoever, to be also specified in such Act or Acts;" and it is thereby also enacted that "on the passing of such Indian Act or Acts, and whilst the same shall remain in force, all such parts of this Act as shall be adopted therein shall apply to and extend to the carriage of passengers upon such voyages as in the said Indian Act or Acts shall be specified. The provisions of such Indian Act shall be enforced in all Her Majesty's possessions in like manner as the provisions of this Act may be enforced;"

And whereas certain parts of the said Act of Parliament were by Act II of 1860 (*to amend the law relating to the carriage of passengers by sea*) made applicable to the carriage of passengers upon certain specified voyages;

And whereas by an Act of the Imperial Parliament called "The Passengers Act Amendment Act, 1863,"

26 & 27 Vic.,
c. 51.

[Price two annas.]

1863," certain parts of the Passengers Act, 1855, ^{18 & 19 Vic., c. 119.} which were so made applicable, have been amended, and it is provided that the said Acts of the Imperial Parliament shall be construed together as one Act;

And whereas it is expedient that the amendments so made in the Passengers Act, 1855, should also be made in the parts of that Act so made applicable, and it is also expedient to apply those parts so amended to the carriage of passengers upon certain voyages not specified in Act II of 1860 ; ^{18 & 19 Vic., c. 119.}

It is hereby enacted as follows :—

Short title
and com-
mencement.

1. (1) This Act may be called the Indian Sea Passengers Act, 1885 ; and

(2) It shall come into force on the first day of October, 1885.

Repeal of Act
II of 1860.

2. On and from the day on which this Act comes into force, Act II of 1860 (*to amend the law relating to the carriage of passengers by sea*) shall be repealed.

Certain pro-
visions of
the Statutes
made appli-
cable to
specified voy-
ages from
India.

3. The provisions contained in sections 4, 5 and 6 of this Act, and the schedule hereto annexed (being parts of the Passengers Act, 1855, as amended by the Passengers Act Amendment Act, 1863), are declared applicable to the carriage of passengers upon the following voyages, namely :— <sup>18 & 19 Vic., c. 119.
26 & 27 Vic., c. 51.</sup>

- (a) voyages from the ports of Calcutta, Madras and Bombay to the British Colonies of Mauritius, Jamaica, British Guiana, Trinidad, St. Lucia, Grenada, St. Vincent, Natal, St. Kitts, Nevis and Fiji ;
- (b) voyages from the ports of Calcutta, Madras and Bombay to the French Colonies of Réunion, Martinique, Guadeloupe and its dependencies, and Guiana ;
- (c) voyages from the ports of Calcutta, Madras and Bombay to the Netherlands colony of Dutch Guiana ;
- (d) voyages from the ports of Calcutta, Madras and Bombay to the Danish colony of St. Croix ;
- (e) voyages

VIII of 1876.

(e) voyages under the Native Passenger Ships Act, 1876, from Calcutta, Madras, Bombay, Kará-chí, Rangoon and other ports in British India to the Straits Settlements, to the protected Native States adjoining the Straits Settlements, to Australia, and to ports in the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden or Persian Gulf and on the East Coast of Africa.

4. If the passengers or cabin-passengers upon any such voyage as is specified in the last preceding section are taken off from the ship carrying them or are picked up at sea from any boat, raft or otherwise, it shall be lawful, if the port or place to which they are conveyed is in any of Her Majesty's colonial possessions, for the Governor of such colony, or for any person authorized by him for the purpose, or, if in any foreign country, for Her Majesty's Consular Officer at such port or place therein, to defray all or any part of the expenses thereby incurred.

Governors or Consuls may pay expenses of passengers taken off passenger-ship.

5. If any passenger or cabin-passenger of any such passenger-ship as aforesaid, without any neglect or default of his own, finds himself within any colonial or foreign port or place other than that for which the ship was originally bound, or at which he, or the Emigration Agent, or any public officer or other person on his behalf, has contracted that he should land, it shall be lawful for the Governor of the colony, or for any person authorized by him for the purpose, or for Her Majesty's Consular Officer at the foreign port or place, as the case may be, to forward the passenger or cabin-passenger to his intended destination, unless the master of the ship, within forty-eight hours of the arrival of such passenger or cabin-passenger, gives to the Governor or Consular officer, as the case may be, a written undertaking to forward or carry on within six weeks thereafter the passenger or cabin-passenger to his original destination, and unless the master accordingly forwards or carries him on within that period.

Governors or Consuls may send on passengers, if the master of the ship fail to do so.

6. (1) All expenses incurred under the last two preceding sections, or either of them, by or by the authority

Expenses incurred under sections 4

and 5 to be
a Crown
debt.

authority of a Governor or Consular Officer, or other person as therein respectively mentioned, including the cost of maintaining the passengers and cabin-passengers until forwarded to their destination, and of all necessary bedding, provisions and stores, shall become a debt to Her Majesty and Her successors from the owner, charterer and master of the ship, and shall be recoverable from them, or from any one or more of them, at the suit and for the use of Her Majesty, in like manner as in the case of other Crown debts.

(2) A certificate in the form given in the schedule hereto annexed, or as near thereto as the circumstances of the case will admit, purporting to be under the hand of any such Governor or Consular Officer (as the case may be), stating the total amount of the expenses, shall, in any suit or other proceeding for the recovery of the debt, be received in evidence without proof of the handwriting or of the official character of the Governor or Consular Officer, and shall be deemed sufficient evidence of the amount of the expenses, and that the same were duly incurred ;

nor shall it be necessary to adduce on behalf of Her Majesty any other evidence in support of the claim, but judgment shall pass for the Crown, with costs of suit, unless the defendant specially pleads and duly proves that the certificate is false or fraudulent, or specially pleads and duly proves any facts showing that the expenses were not duly incurred ;

Provided, nevertheless, that in no case shall any larger sum be recovered on account of the expenses than a sum equal to twice the total amount of passage-money received or due to and recoverable by or on account of the owner, charterer or master of the passenger-ship or any of them from or on account of the whole number of passengers and cabin-passengers who may have embarked in the ship ; which total amount of passage-money shall be proved by the defendant if he will have the advantage of this limitation of the debt ; but if any such passengers are forwarded or conveyed to their intended destination under the provisions of the last preceding section, they

they shall not be entitled to the return of their passage-money, or to any compensation for loss of passage.

7. No policy of assurance effected in respect of any passages or of any passage or compensation money by any person by this Act made liable in the events aforesaid to provide those passages or to pay that money, or in respect of any other risk under this Act, shall be deemed invalid by reason of the nature of the risk or interest sought to be covered by the policy of assurance. Insurance.

THE SCHEDULE.

Form of Governor's or Consul's Certificate of Expenditure in the case of Passengers shipwrecked, &c.

(See section 6.)

I hereby certify that acting under, and in conformity with, the provisions of the Indian Sea Passengers Act, 1885, I have defrayed the expenses incurred in rescuing, maintaining, supplying with necessary bedding, provisions and stores (a), and in forwarding to their destination

(a) *N.B.*—1. If more passengers were rescued than forwarded, or if bedding, &c., was not supplied, alter the certificate to suit the facts of the case.

(b) *N.B.*—2. Omit words in brackets when necessary.

passengers [including cabin-passengers (b),] who were proceeding from to in the passenger-ship which was wrecked at sea, &c. (c)

(c) *N.B.*—3. State generally the nature of the disaster and where it occurred. But if the passengers were only left behind without any default of their own, state the fact accordingly.

And I further certify, for the purposes of the sixth section of said Indian Sea Passengers Act, 1885, that the total amount of such expenses is , and that such expenses were duly incurred by me under the said Act.

Given under my hand this

day of

18 .

{ Governor of, &c. (or, as the case may be)
Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at .

THE INDIAN TELEGRAPH ACT, 1885.

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[Price four annas and nine pies.]

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1885.]

ACT No. XIII OF 1885.

PASSED BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

(Received the assent of the Governor General on the 22nd July, 1885.)

An Act to amend the law relating to Telegraphs in India.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the law relating to telegraphs in India; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

PART I.

PRELIMINARY.

1. (1) This Act may be called the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.

Short title,
local extent
and com-
mencement.

(2) It extends to the whole of British India, and, so far as regards subjects of Her Majesty, to the dominions of Princes and States in India in alliance with Her Majesty; and

(3) It shall come into force on the first day of October, 1885.

I of 1876.

2. The Indian Telegraph Act, 1876, is hereby repealed.

Repeal and
savings.

But all licenses granted and rules made under that Act or any Act thereby repealed, and now in force, shall, so far as they could be granted or made under this Act, be deemed to have been respectively granted and made hereunder.

3. In this Act, unless there is something repugnant in the subject or context,—

Definitions.

(1) "Telegraph" means an electric, galvanic or magnetic telegraph, and includes appliances and apparatus for transmitting or making telegraphic, telephonic

(Part II.—Privileges and Powers of the Government.—Section 4.)

telephonic or other communications by means of electricity, galvanism or magnetism :

(2) "Telegraph officer" means any person employed either permanently or temporarily in connection with a telegraph established, maintained or worked by the Government or by a person licensed under this Act :

(3) "Message" means any communication sent by telegraph, or given to a telegraph officer to be sent by telegraph or to be delivered :

(4) "Telegraph line" means a wire or wires used for the purpose of a telegraph, with any casing, coating, tube or pipe enclosing the same, and any appliances and apparatus connected therewith for the purpose of fixing or insulating the same :

(5) "Post" means a post, pole, standard, stay, strut or other above-ground contrivance for carrying, suspending or supporting a telegraph line :

(6) "Telegraph authority" means the Director General of Telegraphs, and includes any officer empowered by him to perform all or any of the functions of the telegraph authority under this Act :

(7) "Local authority" means any municipal committee, district board, body of port commissioners or other authority legally entitled to, or entrusted by the Government with, the control or management of any municipal or local fund.

PART II.

PRIVILEGES AND POWERS OF THE GOVERNMENT.

4. Within British India, the Governor General in Council shall have the exclusive privilege of establishing, maintaining and working telegraphs :

Provided that the Governor General in Council may grant a license, on such conditions and in consideration

Exclusive
privilege in
respect of
telegraphs,
and power
to grant
licenses.

(Part II.—Privileges and Powers of the Government.—Sections 5-7.)

sideration of such payments as he thinks fit, to any person to establish, maintain or work a telegraph within any part of British India.

5. (1) On the occurrence of any public emergency, or in the interest of the public safety, the Governor General in Council or a Local Government, or any officer specially authorised in this behalf by the Governor General in Council, may—

Power for Government to take possession of licensed telegraphs and to order interception of messages.

(a) take temporary possession of any telegraph established, maintained or worked by any person licensed under this Act; or

(b) order that any message or class of messages to or from any person or class of persons, or relating to any particular subject, brought for transmission by or transmitted or received by any telegraph, shall not be transmitted, or shall be intercepted or detained, or shall be disclosed to the Government or an officer thereof mentioned in the order.

(2) If any doubt arises as to the existence of a public emergency, or whether any act done under sub-section (1) was in the interest of the public safety, a certificate signed by a Secretary to the Government of India or to the Local Government shall be conclusive proof on the point.

6. Any Railway Company, on being required so to do by the Governor General in Council, shall permit the Government to establish and maintain a telegraph upon any part of the land of the Company, and shall give every reasonable facility for working the same.

Power to establish telegraph on land of Railway Company.

7. (1) The Governor General in Council may, from time to time, by notification in the *Gazette of India*, make rules consistent with this Act for the conduct of all or any telegraphs established, maintained or worked by the Government or by persons licensed under this Act.

Power to make rules for the conduct of telegraphs.

(Part II.—Privileges and Powers of the Government.—Section 8.)

(2) Rules under this section may provide for all or any of the following, among other matters, that is to say :—

- (a) the rates at which, and the other conditions and restrictions subject to which, messages shall be transmitted ;
- (b) the precautions to be taken for preventing the improper interception or disclosure of messages ;
- (c) the period for which, and the conditions subject to which, telegrams and other documents belonging to, or being in the custody of, telegraph officers shall be preserved ; and
- (d) the fees to be charged for searching for telegrams or other documents in the custody of any telegraph officer.

(3) When making rules for the conduct of any telegraph established, maintained or worked by any person licensed under this Act, the Governor General in Council may by the rules prescribe fines for any breach of the same :

Provided that the fines so prescribed shall not exceed the following limits, namely :—

- (i) when the person licensed under this Act is punishable for the breach, one thousand rupees, and in the case of a continuing breach a further fine of two hundred rupees for every day after the first during the whole or any part of which the breach continues ;
- (ii) when a servant of the person so licensed, or any other person, is punishable for the breach, one-fourth of the amounts specified in clause (i).

Revocation
of licenses.

8. The Governor General in Council may, at any time, revoke any license granted under section 4, on the

1885.]

Telegraphs.

(Part III.—Power to place Telegraph Lines and Posts.—Sections 9-10.)

the breach of any of the conditions therein contained, or in default of payment of any consideration payable thereunder.

9. The Secretary of State for India in Council shall not be responsible for any loss or damage which may occur in consequence of any telegraph officer failing in his duty with respect to the receipt, transmission or delivery of any message; and no such officer shall be responsible for any such loss or damage, unless he causes the same negligently, maliciously or fraudulently.

Government not responsible for loss or damage.

PART III.

POWER TO PLACE TELEGRAPH LINES AND POSTS.

10. The telegraph authority may, from time to time, place and maintain a telegraph line under, over, along or across, and posts in or upon, any immoveable property :

Power for telegraph authority to place and maintain telegraph lines and posts.

Provided that—

- (a) the telegraph authority shall not exercise the powers conferred by this section except for the purposes of a telegraph established or maintained by the Government, or to be so established or maintained ;
- (b) the Government shall not acquire any right other than that of user only in the property under, over, along, across, in or upon which the telegraph authority places any telegraph line or post ; and
- (c) except as hereinafter provided, the telegraph authority shall not exercise those powers in respect of any property vested in or under the control or management of any local authority, without the permission of that authority ; and

(d) in

(Part III.—Power to place Telegraph Lines and Posts.—Sections 11-13.)

(d) in the exercise of the powers conferred by this section, the telegraph authority shall do as little damage as possible, and, when it has exercised those powers in respect of any property other than that referred to in clause (c), shall pay full compensation to all persons interested for any damage sustained by them by reason of the exercise of those powers.

Power to enter on property in order to repair or remove telegraph lines or posts.

11. The telegraph authority may, at any time, for the purpose of examining, repairing, altering or removing any telegraph line or post, enter on the property under, over, along, across, in or upon which the line or post has been placed.

Provisions applicable to Property vested in or under the Control or Management of Local Authorities.

Power for local authority to give permission under section 10, clause (c), subject to conditions.

12. Any permission given by a local authority under section 10, clause (c), may be given subject to such reasonable conditions as that authority thinks fit to impose, as to the payment of any expenses to which the authority will necessarily be put in consequence of the exercise of the powers conferred by that section, or as to the time or mode of execution of any work, or as to any other thing connected with or relative to any work undertaken by the telegraph authority under those powers.

Power for local authority to require removal or alteration of telegraph line or post.

13. When, under the foregoing provisions of this Act, a telegraph line or post has been placed by the telegraph authority under, over, along, across, in or upon any property vested in or under the control or management of a local authority, and the local authority, having regard to circumstances which have arisen since the telegraph line or post was so placed, considers it expedient that it should be removed or that its position should be altered, the local authority may require the telegraph authority to remove it or alter its position, as the case may be.

14 The

(Part III.—Power to place Telegraph Lines and
Posts.—Sections 14-16.)

14. The telegraph authority may, for the purpose of exercising the powers conferred upon it by this Act in respect of any property vested in or under the control or management of a local authority, alter the position thereunder of any pipe (not being a main) for the supply of gas or water, or of any drain (not being a main drain):

Power to alter position of gas or water pipes or drains.

Provided that—

- (a) when the telegraph authority desires to alter the position of any such pipe or drain it shall give reasonable notice of its intention to do so, specifying the time at which it will begin to do so, to the local authority, and, when the pipe or drain is not under the control of the local authority, to the person under whose control the pipe or drain is;
- (b) a local authority or person receiving notice under clause (a) may send a person to superintend the work, and the telegraph authority shall execute the work to the reasonable satisfaction of the person so sent.

15. (1) If any dispute arises between the telegraph authority and a local authority in consequence of the local authority refusing the permission referred to in section 10, clause (c), or prescribing any condition under section 12, or in consequence of the telegraph authority omitting to comply with a requisition made under section 13, or otherwise in respect of the exercise of the powers conferred by this Act, it shall be determined by such officer as the Local Government may appoint either generally or specially in this behalf.

Disputes between telegraph authority and local authority.

(2) An appeal from the determination of the officer so appointed shall lie to the Local Government; and the order of the Local Government shall be final.

Provisions applicable to other Property.

16. (1) If the exercise of the powers mentioned in section 10 in respect of property referred to in clause

Exercise of powers conferred by

(d)

(Part III.—Power to place Telegraph Lines and Posts.—Section 16.)

section 10,
and disputes
as to compen-
sation, in
case of pro-
perty other
than that of
a local author-
ity.

(d) of that section is resisted or obstructed, the District Magistrate may, in his discretion, order that the telegraph authority shall be permitted to exercise them.

(2) If, after the making of an order under sub-section (1), any person resists the exercise of those powers, or, having control over the property, does not give all facilities for their being exercised, he shall be deemed to have committed an offence under section 188 of the Indian Penal Code.

XLV of 1860.

(3) If any dispute arises concerning the sufficiency of the compensation to be paid under section 10, clause (d), it shall, on application for that purpose by either of the disputing parties to the District Judge within whose jurisdiction the property is situate, be determined by him.

(4) If any dispute arises as to the persons entitled to receive compensation, or as to the proportions in which the persons interested are entitled to share in it, the telegraph authority may pay into the Court of the District Judge such amounts as he deems sufficient or, where all the disputing parties have in writing admitted the amount tendered to be sufficient or the amount has been determined under sub-section (3), that amount; and the District Judge, after giving notice to the parties and hearing such of them as desire to be heard, shall determine the persons entitled to receive the compensation or, as the case may be, the proportions in which the persons interested are entitled to share in it.

(5) Every determination of a dispute by a District Judge under sub-section (3) or sub-section (4) shall be final:

Provided that nothing in this sub-section shall affect the right of any person to recover by suit the whole or any part of any compensation paid by the telegraph authority, from the person who has received the same.

17. (1) When

(Part III.—Power to place Telegraph Lines and
Posts.—Sections 17-18.)

17. (1) When, under the foregoing provisions of this Act, a telegraph line or post has been placed by the telegraph authority under, over, along, across, in or upon any property, not being property vested in or under the control or management of a local authority, and any person entitled to do so desires to deal with that property in such a manner as to render it necessary or convenient that the telegraph line or post should be removed to another part thereof or to a higher or lower level or altered in form, he may require the telegraph authority to remove or alter the line or post accordingly :

Removal or alteration of telegraph line or post on property other than that of a local authority.

Provided that, if compensation has been paid under section 10, clause (d), he shall, when making the requisition, tender to the telegraph authority the amount requisite to defray the expense of the removal or alteration, or half of the amount paid as compensation, whichever may be the smaller sum.

(2) If the telegraph authority omits to comply with the requisition, the person making it may apply to the District Magistrate within whose jurisdiction the property is situate to order the removal or alteration.

(3) A District Magistrate receiving an application under sub-section (2) may, in his discretion, reject the same or make an order, absolutely or subject to conditions, for the removal of the telegraph line or post to any other part of the property or to a higher or lower level or for the alteration of its form ; and the order so made shall be final.

Provisions applicable to all Property.

18. (1) If any tree standing or lying near a telegraph line interrupts, or is likely to interrupt, telegraphic communication, a Magistrate of the first or second class may, on the application of the telegraph authority, cause the tree to be removed or dealt with in such other way as he deems fit.

Removal of trees interrupting telegraphic communication.

(2) When

(Part IV.—Penalties. — Sections 19-22.)

(2) When disposing of an application under subsection (1), the Magistrate shall, in the case of any tree in existence before the telegraph line was placed, award to the persons interested in the tree such compensation as he thinks reasonable, and the award shall be final.

Telegraph lines and posts placed before the passing of this Act.

19. Every telegraph line or post placed before the passing of this Act under, over, along, across, in or upon any property, for the purposes of a telegraph established or maintained by the Government, shall be deemed to have been placed in exercise of the powers conferred by, and after observance of all the requirements of, this Act.

PART IV.

PENALTIES.

Establishing, maintaining, or working unlicensed telegraph or breaking condition of license.

20. If any person establishes, maintains or works a telegraph within British India, otherwise than as permitted by a license granted under section 4, or breaks any condition contained in such a license, he shall be punished with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees, and with a further fine which may extend to five hundred rupees for every week during which the line is maintained or worked or the breach of the condition continues.

Using such telegraphs.

21. If any person, knowing or having reason to believe that a telegraph has been established or is maintained or worked in contravention of this Act, transmits or receives any message by such telegraph, or performs any service incidental thereto, or delivers any message for transmission by such telegraph or accepts delivery of any message sent thereby, he shall be punished with fine which may extend to fifty rupees.

Opposing establishment of telegraphs on railway land.

22. If a Railway Company, or an officer of a Railway Company, neglects or refuses to comply with the provisions of section 6, it or he shall be punished with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees for

every

• (Part IV.—Penalties.—Sections 23-25.)

every day during which the neglect or refusal continues.

23. If any person—

- (a) without permission of competent authority, enters the signal-room of a telegraph office of the Government, or of a person licensed under this Act, or
- (b) enters a fenced enclosure round such a telegraph office in contravention of any rule or notice not to do so, or
- (c) refuses to quit such room or enclosure on being requested to do so by any officer or servant employed therein, or
- (d) wilfully obstructs or impedes any such officer or servant in the performance of his duty,

Intrusion into signal-room, trespass in telegraph office or obstruction.

he shall be punished with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees.

24. If any person does any of the acts mentioned in section 23 with the intention of unlawfully learning the contents of any message, or of committing any offence punishable under this Act, he may (in addition to the fine with which he is punishable under section 23) be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year.

Unlawfully attempting to learn contents of messages.

25. If any person, intending—

- (a) to prevent or obstruct the transmission or delivery of any message, or
- (b) to intercept or to acquaint himself with the contents of any message, or
- (c) to commit mischief,

Intentionally damaging or tampering with telegraphs.

damages, removes, tampers with or touches any battery, machinery, telegraph line, post or other thing whatever, being part of or used in or about any telegraph or in the working thereof,

he shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years, or with fine, or with both.

26. If

Telegraph officer or other official making away with or altering, or unlawfully intercepting or disclosing, messages, or divulging purport of signals.

26. If any telegraph officer, or any person, not being a telegraph officer but having official duties connected with any office which is used as a telegraph office,—

- (a) wilfully secretes, makes away with or alters any message which he has received for transmission or delivery, or
- (b) wilfully, and otherwise than in obedience to an order of the Governor General in Council or of a Local Government, or of an officer specially authorised by the Governor General in Council to make the order, omits to transmit, or intercepts or detains, any message or any part thereof, or otherwise than in pursuance of his official duty or in obedience to the direction of a competent Court, discloses the contents or any part of the contents of any message, to any person not entitled to receive the same, or
- (c) divulges the purport of any telegraphic signal to any person not entitled to become acquainted with the same,

he shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years, or with fine, or with both.

Telegraph officer fraudulently sending messages without payment.

27. If any telegraph officer transmits by telegraph any message on which the charge prescribed by the Government, or by a person licensed under this Act, as the case may be, has not been paid, intending thereby to defraud the Government or that person, he shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years, or with fine, or with both.

Misconduct.

28. If any telegraph officer, or any person not being a telegraph officer but having official duties connected with any office which is used as a telegraph office, is guilty of any act of drunkenness, carelessness or other misconduct whereby the correct transmission

or

1885.]

Telegraphs.

(*Part V.—Supplemental Provision.—Sections 29-33.*)

or the delivery of any message is impeded or delayed, or if any telegraph officer loiters or delays in the transmission or delivery of any message, he shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months, or with fine which may extend to one hundred rupees, or with both.

29. If any person transmits or causes to be transmitted by telegraph a message which he knows to be false or fabricated, he shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years, or with fine, or with both.

Sending fabricated message.

30. If any person fraudulently retains, or wilfully secretes, makes away with or detains a message which ought to have been delivered to some other person, or, being required by a telegraph officer to deliver up any such message, neglects or refuses to do so, he shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine, or with both.

Retaining a message delivered by mistake.

31. A telegraph officer shall be deemed a public servant within the meaning of sections 161, 162, 163, 164 and 165 of the Indian Penal Code; and in the definition of "legal remuneration" contained in the said section 161, the word "Government" shall, for the purposes of this Act, be deemed to include a person licensed under this Act.

Bribery.

XLV of 1860.

32. Whoever attempts to commit any offence punishable under this Act shall be punished with the punishment herein provided for the offence.

Attempts to commit offences.

PART V.

SUPPLEMENTAL PROVISION.

33. (1) Whenever it appears to the Local Government that any act causing or likely to cause wrongful damage to any telegraph is repeatedly and maliciously committed in any place, and that the employment

Power to employ additional police in places where mis-

(Part V.—Supplemental Provision.—Section 33.)

chief to tele-
graphs is
repeatedly
committed.

employment of an additional police-force in that place is thereby rendered necessary, the Local Government may send such additional police-force as it thinks fit to the place, and employ the same therein so long as, in the opinion of that Government, the necessity of doing so continues.

(2) The inhabitants of the place shall be charged with the cost of the additional police-force, and the District Magistrate shall, subject to the orders of the Local Government, assess the proportion in which the cost shall be paid by the inhabitants according to his judgment of their respective means.

(3) All moneys payable under sub-section (2) shall be recoverable either under the warrant of a Magistrate by distress and sale of the moveable property of the defaulter within the local limits of his jurisdiction, or by suit in any competent Court.

(4) The Local Government may, by order in writing, define the limits of any place for the purposes of this section.

ACT No. XIV OF 1885.

PASSED BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

(Received the assent of the Governor General on the 31st July, 1885.)

An Act to amend the Burma Courts Act, 1875, and section 360 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Burma Courts Act, 1875, and section 360 of the Code of Civil Procedure; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

XVII of
1875.
XIV of 1882.

1. (1) This Act may be called the Burma Courts Act, 1885; and

Short title
and com-
mencement.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. (1) The Chief Commissioner of British Burma may, from time to time, by order notified in the official Gazette, direct that, from a date to be therein specified, the jurisdiction vested in the Recorder within the towns of Moulmein, Akyab and Bassein by section 66 of the Burma Courts Act, 1875, shall be vested, as regards each or any of those towns, as follows:—

Power to
vest in local
officers insol-
vency juris-
diction
vested in
Recorder in
Moulmein,
Akyab and
Bassein.

XVII of
1875.

(a) in the Civil Judge of Moulmein within the town of Moulmein;

(b) in the Deputy Commissioner of Akyab within the town of Akyab;

(c) in the Deputy Commissioner of Bassein within the town of Bassein.

(2) While any such order is in force, the said section 66 shall, with respect to any town to which the order applies, have effect as if it referred to the officer in whom the jurisdiction is so vested instead of to the Recorder, and all cases pending at the date of the order shall be disposed of accordingly.

(3) Provided

[Price one anna and three pies.]

(3) Provided that nothing in this section shall prevent the Recorder from entertaining and disposing of in his own Court any case, whether pending at the date of the order or subsequently instituted, which, by reason of its importance or otherwise, may, in his opinion, be more conveniently so disposed of.

(4) The Chief Commissioner may, by order notified as aforesaid, cancel any order made under subsection (1) as to all or any of the towns to which the order applies, but not so as to affect any proceedings pending at the date of the cancelling order.

3. The last paragraph of section 360 of the Code of Civil Procedure is hereby repealed.

XIV of 1882.

Partial
repeal of
section 360
of Code of
Civil Procedure.
Power to
transfer cases
from Court
of Recorder
to Court of
Judicial
Commissioner.

4. (1) The Chief Commissioner may, from time to time, transfer to the Court of the Judicial Commissioner any particular cases or particular classes of cases that may be pending in the Court of the Recorder.

(2) In the disposal of such cases the Judicial Commissioner shall administer the same law, follow the same procedure, exercise the same powers and use the same seal as would be administered, followed, exercised and used by the Recorder in like cases.

(3) Section 84 of the Burma Courts Act, 1875, shall apply to the Court of the Judicial Commissioner when disposing of such cases.

XVII of
1875.

(4) All decrees, orders and sentences made or passed in such cases by the Judicial Commissioner shall, for the purposes of the law relating to appeals, references and revision, be deemed to be made or passed by the Recorder.

ACT No. XV OF 1885.

PASSED BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

(Received the assent of the Governor General on the 2nd October, 1885.)

An Act to amend the Local Authorities Loan Act, 1879.

XI of 1879. **W**HEREAS it is expedient to amend the Local Authorities Loan Act, 1879; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. After clause (b) of the proviso to section 8 of the said Act the following shall be added:—

Addition to
section 8, Act
XI of 1879.

“or

“(c) to affect the power conferred on any local authority by any such enactment to charge its funds by guaranteeing the payment of interest on money to be applied to any purpose to which the funds of the local authority can legally be applied.”

[Price one anna.]

THE CENTRAL PROVINCES CIVIL COURTS ACT, 1885.

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Small

[*Price four annas.*]

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 26. Powers exerciseable from time to time.
 27. Publication of certain orders.
-

1885.]

ACT No. XVI OF 1885.

PASSED BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

(Received the assent of the Governor General on the 2nd October, 1885.)

An Act to amend the law relating to Civil Courts in the Central Provinces.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Law relating to Civil Courts in the Central Provinces ; It is hereby enacted as follows :—

Preliminary.

1. (1) This Act may be called the Central Provinces Civil Courts Act, 1885.

Short title,
local extent
and com-
mencement.

(2) It extends to the territories for the time being under the administration of the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces ; and

(3) It shall come into force on the first day of January, 1886.

(4) Any authority conferred on the Chief Commissioner or on the Judicial Commissioner by this Act to issue orders or make rules may be exercised at any time after the passing of this Act ; but an order or rule so issued or made shall not take effect until the Act comes into force.

2. (1) On and from the day on which this Act comes into force the Central Provinces Courts Act, 1865, and Act XXVII of 1867, so far as it relates to the Central Provinces, shall be repealed.

Repeal.

v of 1865.

(2) Any enactment or document referring to either of the enactments hereby repealed shall be construed to refer to this Act or to the corresponding portion

*Central Provinces Civil Courts. [ACT XVI
(Classes of Courts.—Court of the Judicial Commissioner.—Sections 3-5.)*

portion thereof; and all declarations made, powers conferred, limits prescribed, directions given and orders issued under either of those enactments shall, so far as may be, be deemed to have been respectively made, conferred, prescribed, given and issued under this Act.

Definitions.

3. In this Act, unless there is something repugnant in the subject or context,—

“Assistant Commissioner” includes Extra Assistant Commissioner; and

“value,” used with reference to a suit, means the amount or value of the subject-matter of the suit.

Classes of Courts.

Classes of
Courts.

4. Besides the Courts of Small Causes established under Act XI of 1865, and the Courts established under any other enactment for the time being in force, there shall be the following classes of Civil Courts, namely:—

- (a) the Court of the Judicial Commissioner;
- (b) the Court of the Commissioner;
- (c) the Court of the Deputy Commissioner;
- (d) the Court of the Assistant Commissioner of the first class;
- (e) the Court of the Assistant Commissioner of the second class;
- (f) the Court of the Assistant Commissioner of the third class;
- (g) the Court of the Tahsildár of the first class;
- (h) the Court of the Tahsildár of the second class.

Court of the Judicial Commissioner.

Court of the
Judicial
Commis-
sioner.

5. The Judicial Commissioner shall be appointed by the Governor General in Council; and his Court shall be deemed, for the purposes of all enactments for

1885.] *Central Provinces Civil Courts.*

*(Courts of Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners.
—Other Courts.—Sections 6-10.)*

for the time being in force, to be the highest Civil Court of appeal in the territories to which this Act extends.

Courts of Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners.

6. (1) The local limits of the jurisdiction of the Court of the Commissioner shall be those of the division of the revenue-administration of which he is in charge.

Courts of Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners.

(2) The local limits of the jurisdiction of the Court of the Deputy Commissioner shall be those of the district of the revenue-administration of which he is in charge.

7. Except as otherwise provided by any enactment for the time being in force, the Court of the Commissioner and the Court of the Deputy Commissioner shall be competent to try original civil suits without limit as regards the value.

Original jurisdiction of Courts of Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners in suits.

8. Except as otherwise provided by any enactment for the time being in force, the Deputy Commissioner shall be deemed to be the District Judge of the district, and his Court to be the District Court or principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction in the district.

Court of Deputy Commissioner to be principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction.

Other Courts.

9. The Chief Commissioner may, by order in writing, declare, as regards any Assistant Commissioner, that his Court shall be that of an Assistant Commissioner of the first or of the second or of the third class, and, as regards any Tahsildár, that his Court shall be that of a Tahsildár of the first or of the second class.

Chief Commissioner may declare class to which the Court of an Assistant Commissioner or Tahsildár shall belong.

10. (1) Courts of Assistant Commissioners and Tahsildárs shall be competent to try original civil suits

Pecuniary and local limits of the jurisdiction of Courts of

Central Provinces Civil Courts. [ACT XVI
(*Náib-tahsildárs.—Judicial Assistants to Commissioners, Civil Judges and Munsifs.—Sections 11-12.*)

Assistant
Commission-
ers and Tah-
sildárs.

suits of which the value does not exceed that specified against each Court in the following table:— .

Courts.	Value.
Court of the Assistant Commissioner of the first class	Five thousand rupees.
Court of the Assistant Commissioner of the second class	One thousand rupees.
Court of the Assistant Commissioner of the third class	Five hundred rupees.
Court of the Tahsildár of the first class	Three hundred rupees.
Court of the Tahsildár of the second class	One hundred rupees.

Provided that the Chief Commissioner may, by order in writing, limit the classes of original civil suits which the Courts of Tahsildárs of the first or of the second class shall be competent to try.

(2) The local limits of the jurisdiction of the Courts mentioned in this section shall be such as the Chief Commissioner may, by order in writing, define.

Náib-tahsildárs.

Conferment
of jurisdic-
tion in cer-
tain suits on
Náib-tahsíl-
dárs.

11. The Chief Commissioner may, by order in writing, invest, within such local limits as he thinks fit, any Náib-tahsildár with jurisdiction to try suits of the nature cognizable in a Court of Small Causes established under Act XI of 1865, up to such value, not exceeding fifty rupees, as he thinks fit.

Judicial Assistants to Commissioners, Civil Judges and Munsifs.

Power to in-
vest certain
persons, un-
der the names
of Judicial
Assistant to

12 (1) The Chief Commissioner may, by order in writing, invest any person—

(a) with all or any of the powers of the Court of the Commissioner under this Act ;

(b) with

1885.] *Central Provinces Civil Courts.*

(Small Cause Court Jurisdiction.—Section 13.)

- (b) with all or any of the powers of the Court of the Deputy Commissioner under this Act ;
or
(c) with all or any of the powers of the Court of a Tahsildár of the first or of the second class under this Act ;
- Commissioner, Civil Judge and Munsif, with certain powers.

and declare that the powers with which any person is so invested shall be exercised within any specified local area, and with respect to any particular class, or particular classes, of cases, or with respect to cases generally.

(2) Persons invested with powers under sub-section (1) shall be designated as follows :—

- if invested under clause (a)—Judicial Assistant to the Commissioner ;
if invested under clause (b)—Civil Judge ;
if invested under clause (c)—Munsif.

(3) The Courts of such persons shall, for all purposes connected with the exercise of the said powers, be deemed to be, respectively, Courts of Commissioners, Courts of Deputy Commissioners and Courts of Tahsildárs.

(4) The Chief Commissioner may, by order in writing, direct how business shall be distributed between the Commissioner and the Judicial Assistant to the Commissioner, and between the Deputy Commissioner and the Civil Judge.

Small Cause Court Jurisdiction.

13. The Chief Commissioner may, by order in writing, confer, within such local limits as he thinks fit, upon any Court of an Assistant Commissioner of the first or of the second class the jurisdiction of a Judge of a Court of Small Causes under Act XI of 1865 for the trial of suits cognizable by such Courts up to such value as he thinks fit, not exceeding, if the Court is that of an Assistant Commissioner of the first class,

Power to confer Small Cause Court jurisdiction.

five

*Central Provinces Civil Courts. [ACT XVI
(Administrative Control.—Sections 14-16.)*

five hundred rupees, or, if the Court is that of an Assistant Commissioner of the second class, one hundred rupees.

Administrative Control.

Superintendence and control of subordinate Courts by Courts of Judicial Commissioner, Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner.

14. (1) The general superintendence and control over all other Civil Courts shall be vested in, and all such Courts shall be subordinate to, the Court of the Judicial Commissioner.

(2) Subject to the general superintendence and control of the Court of the Judicial Commissioner, the control of all other Civil Courts in a division shall be vested in, and all such Courts shall be subordinate to, the Court of the Commissioner.

(3) Subject as aforesaid and to the control of the Court of the Commissioner, the control of all other Civil Courts in a district shall be vested in, and all such Courts shall be subordinate to, the Court of the Deputy Commissioner :

Provided that the Chief Commissioner, by order in writing, may direct that any Judicial Assistant to the Commissioner or Civil Judge shall not be subject to the control of, or subordinate to, the Court of the Commissioner or the Court of the Deputy Commissioner, as the case may be, and may further direct that such officer shall be subject to the control of, and subordinate to, such other Court as the Chief Commissioner thinks fit.

Power of Court of Commissioner to transfer business.

15. (1) The Court of the Commissioner may exercise, as regards the Courts under its control, the same powers of withdrawal, trial and transfer as are conferred by section 25 of the Code of Civil Procedure XIV of 1882. on a District Court.

(2) The Court trying any suit withdrawn under this section from a Court of Small Causes shall, for the purposes of the suit, be deemed to be a Court of Small Causes.

Power to distribute business.

16. Notwithstanding anything contained in the Code of Civil Procedure, the Court of the Commissioner XIV of 1882.

(Appellate Jurisdiction.—Sections 17-18.)

sioher and the Court of the Deputy Commissioner may, by order in writing, direct that 'any civil business cognizable by it and the Courts under its control shall be distributed among those Courts in such manner as it thinks fit :

Provided that no direction given under this section shall empower any Court to exercise any powers or deal with any business beyond the limits of its proper jurisdiction.

Appellate Jurisdiction.

17. (1) Appeals from decrees passed in original civil suits by Courts subordinate to the Court of the Deputy Commissioner shall, when such appeals are allowed by law and the value of the suit does not exceed one thousand rupees, lie to that Court. Appeals to whom to lie.

(2) Appeals from decrees passed in original civil suits of value exceeding one thousand rupees by the Court of an Assistant Commissioner of the first class, or by a Civil Judge who is subordinate to the Court of the Deputy Commissioner, and from decrees passed in original civil suits of any value by the Court of a Deputy Commissioner, or by a Civil Judge who is not subordinate to that Court, or by a Judicial Assistant to the Commissioner who is subordinate to the Court of the Commissioner, shall, when such appeals are allowed by law, lie to the Court of the Commissioner.

(3) Appeals from decrees passed in original civil suits by the Court of the Commissioner or by a Judicial Assistant to the Commissioner who is not subordinate to the Court of the Commissioner, and from appellate decrees passed by Civil Courts subordinate to the Court of the Judicial Commissioner, shall, when such appeals are allowed by law, lie to the Court of the Judicial Commissioner.

18. (1) The period of limitation for an appeal to the Court of the Commissioner shall be sixty days. Period of limitation for appeals.

(2) In

*Central Provinces Civil Courts. [ACT XVI
(Rules.—Section 19.)*

(2) In the computation of that period and in all other respects the limitation of appeals shall be governed by the provisions of the Indian Limitation Act, 1877.

XV of 1877.

Rules.

Power to
make rules.

19. (1) The Judicial Commissioner may make rules consistent with this Act and any other enactment for the time being in force—

- (a) declaring what persons shall be permitted to practise as petition-writers in Civil Courts, and regulating the conduct of persons so practising;
- (b) prescribing forms for seals to be used by those Courts;
- (c) regulating the procedure in cases where any person is entitled to inspect a record of any Civil Court or obtain a copy of the same, and prescribing the fees payable by such persons for searches and copies;
- (d) conferring and imposing on the ministerial officers of Civil Courts such powers and duties of a non-judicial or quasi-judicial nature as he thinks fit, and regulating the mode in which powers and duties so conferred and imposed shall be exercised and performed;
- (e) prescribing forms for such books, entries, statistics and accounts as he thinks necessary to be kept, made or compiled in those Courts or submitted to any authority;
- (f) providing for the inspection of those Courts, and the supervision of the working thereof; and
- (g) regulating all such matters as he may think fit, with a view to promoting the efficiency of the judicial and ministerial officers of those Courts and maintaining proper discipline among those officers.

(2) A

(Supplemental Provisions.—Sections 20-21.)

- (2) A rule made under this section shall not take effect until it has been sanctioned by the Chief Commissioner and published in the official Gazette.

(3) Whoever breaks any rule made under clause (a) shall be punished with fine which may extend to fifty rupees.

(4) Rules made under clause (g) may provide, among other matters, for fines, to an amount not exceeding one month's salary, being imposed on ministerial officers for misconduct or neglect in the performance of their duties, and for the recovery of fines so imposed by deduction of the amount thereof from any salary that may be or become due to the officers fined.

Supplemental Provisions.

20. (1) The Judicial Commissioner shall keep such registers, books and accounts as may be necessary for the transaction of the business of his Court, and shall submit to the Chief Commissioner such of those registers, books and accounts, and such statements of the work done in his Court, as may be required by the Chief Commissioner.

Books and accounts, and statements and returns, to be kept and furnished by Judicial Commissioner.

(2) The Judicial Commissioner shall also comply, in such form and manner as the Chief Commissioner may deem proper, with such requisitions as may be made by the Chief Commissioner for records of, or papers belonging to, the Court of the Judicial Commissioner or any Civil Court subordinate thereto, or for certified copies of, or extracts from, such records or papers, or for returns, statements or reports.

21. (1) The Chief Commissioner may, by order in writing, fix the place or places at which any Civil Court shall be held.

Place of sitting of Courts.

(2) The place or places so fixed may be beyond the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Court.

(3) Except

*Central Provinces Civil Courts. [ACT XVI
(Supplemental Provisions.—Sections 22-24.)*

(3) Except as may be otherwise provided by any order under this section, a Civil Court may be held at any place within the local limits of its jurisdiction.

Mode of conferring powers.

22. The Chief Commissioner may, when he is empowered by this Act to confer any powers, confer them on any person specially by name or by virtue of his office.

Vacations.

23. (1) Subject to the approval of the Chief Commissioner, the Judicial Commissioner shall prepare a list of days to be observed in each year as holidays in his Court and the Civil Courts subordinate thereto.

(2) The list shall be published in the official Gazette.

Pending proceedings

24. (1) All cases or proceedings pending in the Court of the Judicial Commissioner on the day when this Act comes into force shall be disposed of as if this Act had not been passed.

(2) All cases or proceedings pending in any Civil Court subordinate to the Court of the Judicial Commissioner on that day shall be disposed of as if this Act had not been passed :

Provided that the Judicial Commissioner may direct that any such cases or proceedings shall be transferred for disposal to any Court established under this Act which would have had jurisdiction if it had been in existence when the cases or proceedings were instituted.

(3) In the case of an appeal pending on the said day, the following shall, for the purposes of sub-section (2), be deemed to be the Court which would have had jurisdiction as aforesaid, namely :—

(a) when the value of the suit does not exceed one thousand rupees and the decree or order has been passed by a Court of a class lower than that of the Deputy Commissioner—the Court of the Deputy Commissioner ;

(b) in

(Supplemental Provisions.—Sections 25-27.)

- . (b) in other cases when the decree or order has been passed by a Court of a class lower than
 - . that of the Commissioner—the Court of the Commissioner.

25. Appeals from decrees and orders passed by Civil Courts and not appealed against before the date on which this Act comes into force shall lie and be disposed of as if this Act had not been passed and not otherwise :

Appeals after Act comes into force against decrees and orders passed before.

Provided that the Courts to which such appeals shall lie shall be as follows :—

- (a) when the appeal would before the said date have lain to the Court of the Judicial Commissioner—that Court ;
- (b) when the appeal is from a decree or order passed by a Court of a class lower than that of the Deputy Commissioner in an original civil suit of which the value does not exceed one thousand rupees—the Court of the Deputy Commissioner ;
- (c) in other cases when the decree or order has been passed by a Court of a class lower than that of the Commissioner—the Court of the Commissioner.

26. All powers conferred by this Act may be exercised from time to time as occasion requires.

Powers exercisable from time to time.

27. All orders required by this Act to be issued by the Chief Commissioner in writing shall be published in the official Gazette.

Publication of certain orders.

THE CENTRAL PROVINCES GOVERNMENT WARDS ACT, 1885.

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2. Repeal.
3. Definitions.
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18. Powers of Court of Wards as to property of Government wards.
19. Manager or Court of Wards to be next friend or guardian in suits by or against Government ward.
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23. Disabilities of a Government ward.

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Central Provinces Government Wards. [ACT XVII

SECTIONS.

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29. Exercise of discretion not to be questioned in Civil Court.
30. Power for Chief Commissioner to make rules.

1885.]

ACT No. XVII OF 1885.

PASSED BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

(Received the assent of the Governor General on the 9th October, 1885.)

An Act to make better provision for the Superintendence of Government Wards in the Central Provinces.

WHEREAS it is expedient to make better provision for the superintendence of Government wards in the Central Provinces; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Central Provinces Government Wards Act, 1885.

Short title, extent and commencement.

(2) It extends to the territories for the time being administered by the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces; and

(3) It shall come into force at once.

2. Bengal Regulations LII of 1803 (*for establishing a Court of Wards in the Provinces ceded by the Nawáb Vizier to the Honourable the English East India Company*) and VI of 1822 (*to establish a Court of Wards for Benares, and to define and explain certain of the rules regarding the powers and jurisdiction of the several Courts of Wards*), and section 14 of Act XL of 1858 (*for making better provision for the care of the persons and property of Minors in the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal*) shall, so far as they are in force in the whole or any part of the territories to which this Act extends, be repealed.

Repeal.

3. In this Act, unless there is something repugnant in the subject or context,—

Definitions.

(1) "Government ward" means any person of whose

Central Provinces Government Wards. [ACT XVII
(Sections 4-7.)

whose property, or of whose person and property, the Court of Wards may, for the time being, have the superintendence under this Act :

(2) "Landholder" means a *málguzár* as defined in the Central Provinces Land-revenue Act, 1881, and the *zamíndár* of any *zamíndári* specified in Part VI of the first schedule of the Scheduled Districts Act, 1874, and includes a *muáfídár*, *jagírdár*, *ubáridár* or other assignee of land-revenue, and any person not hereinbefore specified who is interested in land and belongs to a class of which the Chief Commissioner, with the previous sanction of the Governor General in Council, has declared the members to be landholders for the purposes of this Act : and

XVIII of .
1881.

XIV of 1874

(3) "Land" includes the rights of a landholder in respect of the land of which he is the *málguzár* or *zamíndár* or the *muáfídár*, *jagírdár*, *ubáridár* or other assignee of land-revenue, or in which he is interested.

Deputy Com-
missioner to
be Court of
Wards.

4. The Deputy Commissioner shall be the Court of Wards for the limits of his district.

Landholders
to be under
jurisdiction
of Court of
Wards.

5. Every landholder shall be under the jurisdiction of the Court of Wards.

Superintend-
ence by Court
of Wards of
property of
disqualified
landholder.

6. The Court of Wards may, with the previous sanction of the Chief Commissioner, assume the superintendence of the property of any landholder owning land within the local limits of its jurisdiction who is disqualified to manage his own property.

Cases in
which land-
holders to be
deemed dis-
qualified.

7. (1) The following persons shall, for the purposes of the last foregoing section, be deemed to be disqualified to manage their own property, namely :—

- (a) minors who have not guardians appointed for their property by will ;
- (b) persons adjudged by a competent Civil Court to be of unsound mind and incapable of managing their affairs ; and
- (c) persons declared by the Chief Commissioner

to

to be incapable of managing their own property—

- (i) owing to any physical defect or infirmity,
- (ii) owing to their having been convicted of a non-bailable offence, and being unfitted by vice or bad character,
- (iii) owing to their being females, or
- (iv) on their own application.

(2) Every declaration made by the Chief Commissioner under clause (c) of this section shall be final, and shall not be questioned in any Civil Court.

8. When the Court of Wards assumes the superintendence of the property of a minor who has not a guardian appointed for his person by will, or of a person who has been adjudged by a competent Civil Court to be of unsound mind and incapable of managing his affairs, it may, with the previous sanction of the Chief Commissioner, assume the superintendence of his person also :

Superintendence by Court of Wards of person of disqualified landholder.

Provided that nothing in this section shall authorize the Court of Wards to assume the superintendence of the person of a female who is married to a man of full age and is in his custody.

9. Where a landholder owns land within the local limits of the jurisdiction of two or more Courts of Wards, such one only of the Courts as the Chief Commissioner may in this behalf determine shall assume the superintendence of the property, or of the person and property, of the landholder.

Superintendence where disqualified landholder owns land within jurisdiction of two Courts of Wards.

10. When the Court of Wards has, with the sanction of the Chief Commissioner, assumed the superintendence of the property of any person, or of his person and property, its authority shall not be contested in any Civil Court on the ground that he was not or is not a landholder or was not or is not a minor.

Superintendence of Court of Wards not challengeable on ground that ward is not a landholder or minor.

11. Subject

Central Provinces Government Wards. [ACT XVII
(Sections 11-14.)

Appoint-
ment, &c., of
managers by
Court of
Wards.

11. Subject to the rules made under this Act, the Court of Wards may appoint, suspend and remove a manager of the property of any Government ward under its superintendence, and may delegate to the manager all or any of its functions in relation to any property under this Act.

Liabilities,
&c., of
managers and
other ser-
vants of Court
of Wards.

12. (1) Every manager appointed by the Court of Wards shall—

- (a) give such security as the Court thinks fit duly to account for what he receives in respect of the rents and profits of the property under his management;
- (b) be entitled to such allowance as the Court thinks fit for his care and pains in the execution of his duties; and
- (c) be responsible for any loss occasioned to the property under his management by his wilful default or gross negligence.

(2) Every manager or other servant of the Court of Wards shall be deemed a “public servant” within the meaning of sections 161, 162, 163, 164 and 165 of the Indian Penal Code; and in the definition of “legal remuneration” contained in the said section 161, the word “Government” shall, for the purposes of this sub-section, be deemed to include the Court of Wards.

XLV of
1860.

Power for
Court of
Wards to
appoint guar-
dians of
certain Gov-
ernment
wards.
General
powers of
Court of
Wards.

13. The Court of Wards may appoint guardians for the care of the persons of Government wards whose persons are, for the time being, under its superintendence, and may control and remove guardians whom it has appointed.

14. Subject to the provisions of this Act and of the rules made under this Act, the Court of Wards—

- (a) may, of itself or through the manager (if any) appointed by it under this Act, do all such things requisite for the proper care and management of any property, of which it assumes the superintendence under this Act,

as

1885.] *Central Provinces Government Wards.*

(Sections 15-19.)

as the owner of the property, if not disqualified, might do for its care and management; and

- (b) may, of itself or through the guardian (if any) appointed by it under this Act, do in respect of the person of any Government ward, whose person is, for the time being, under its superintendence, all such things as may lawfully be done by a guardian.

15. The Court of Wards may pass such orders as to it seems fit in respect of the custody and residence of any Government ward whose person is, for the time being, under its superintendence, and, when he is a minor, in respect of his education.

Custody, education and residence of certain Government wards.

16. The Court of Wards may, from time to time, determine what sums shall be allowed in respect of the expenses of any Government ward and of his family and dependants.

Allowance for Government ward and his family.

17. The Court of Wards, or the manager (if any) appointed by it under this Act, shall manage the property of every Government ward under its superintendence or under his management diligently and faithfully for the benefit of the Government ward, and shall in every respect act to the best of its or his judgment for the Government ward's interest as if the property were its or his own.

Duties of Court of Wards or manager.

18. The Court of Wards may let the whole or any part of the property of any Government ward under its superintendence, and may, with the previous sanction of the Chief Commissioner, mortgage, sell or exchange the whole or any part of such property, and may do all such other acts as it may judge to be best for the benefit of the property and the advantage of the Government ward.

Powers of Court of Wards as to property of Government wards.

19. In every suit brought by or against a Government ward, the manager of the ward's property, or, if there is no manager, the Court of Wards having the superintendence of the ward's property, shall be

Manager or Court of Wards to be next friend or guardian in suits by or against Government ward.

named

Central Provinces Government Wards. [ACT XVII
(Sections 20-23.)

named as next friend or guardian for the suit, as the case may be.

Payment of costs.

20. If, in any suit brought by or against a Government ward, any Civil Court decrees any costs against the ward's next friend or guardian for the suit, the Court of Wards shall cause the costs to be paid out of any property of the Government ward which may, for the time being, be in its hands.

Processes against Government ward to be served on next friend or guardian.

21. Every process which may be issued out of any Civil Court against any Government ward shall be served on the ward's next friend or guardian for the suit.

Authority of Court of Wards required in case of suits brought on behalf of Government wards.

22. No suit shall be brought on behalf of any Government ward unless it is authorized by some order of the Court of Wards :

Provided as follows :—

- (1) a manager may authorize a plaint to be filed in order to prevent a suit from being barred by the law of limitation, but the suit shall not afterwards be proceeded with except under the sanction of the Court of Wards ;
- (2) a suit for arrears of rent may be brought on behalf of a Government ward if authorized by an order of the manager of the property on which the rent is due.

Disabilities of a Government ward.

23. (1) A Government ward shall be incompetent to transfer or create any charge on, or interest in, his property or any part thereof, or to enter into any contract which may involve him in pecuniary liability.

(2) Nothing in this section shall be deemed to affect the capacity of a Government ward to enter into a contract of marriage :

Provided that he shall not incur, in connection therewith, any pecuniary liability, except such as, having regard to the personal law to which he is subject and to his rank and circumstances, the Court of Wards may, in writing, declare to be reasonable.

24. No

• 24. No adoption by any Government ward, and no written or verbal permission to adopt given by any Government ward, shall be valid without the consent of the Chief Commissioner obtained either previously or subsequently to the adoption, or to the giving of the permission, on application made to him through the Court of Wards.

Consent of Chief Commissioner necessary to adoptions by Government wards.

25. Whenever, on the death of any Government ward, the succession to his property or any part thereof is disputed, the Court of Wards may either direct that the property or part thereof be made over to any person claiming the property, or may retain the superintendence of the property until one of the claimants has established his claim to the same in a competent Civil Court.

Procedure when succession to Government ward's property is disputed.

26. (1) The Court of Wards may, with the sanction of the Chief Commissioner, at any time withdraw its superintendence from the person or property, or both, of a Government ward, and shall withdraw its superintendence as soon as—

Withdrawal of superintendence of Court of Wards.

(a) in the case of a person disqualified under clause (a) of section 7, he attains his majority;

(b) in the case of a person disqualified under clause (b) of that section, he ceases to be of unsound mind and incapable of managing his affairs; and

(c) in the case of a person disqualified under sub-clause (i) of clause (c) of that section, his physical defect or infirmity is removed or ceases.

(2) When any question arises whether the superintendence of the Court of Wards should be withdrawn from any person or property, or both, under clause (a), or from any property under clause (c), of this section, the decision of the Chief Commissioner thereon shall be final and shall not be questioned in any Civil Court.

27. An appeal shall lie from every order of the Court of Wards under this Act to the Commissioner

Appeals.

of

Central Provinces Government Wards. [ACT XVII
(Sections 28-30.)

of the division, and from every order of the Commissioner to the Chief Commissioner.

Control of
Chief Com-
missioner.

28. All orders or proceedings of the Court of Wards and of the Commissioner of the division under this Act shall be subject to the supervision and control of the Chief Commissioner; and the Chief Commissioner may, if he thinks fit, revise, modify or reverse any such order or proceeding, whether an appeal is presented against any such order or proceeding or not.

Exercise of
discretion
not to be
questioned
in Civil
Court.

29. The exercise of any discretion conferred on a Court of Wards, a Commissioner of a division or the Chief Commissioner by this Act shall not be called in question in any Civil Court.

Power for
Chief Com-
missioner to
make rules.

30. (1) The Chief Commissioner may, from time to time, make rules consistent with this Act to—

- (a) prescribe the matters to which regard should be had in appointing or removing guardians and managers, and in fixing their remuneration;
- (b) regulate the amount of security to be given by managers;
- (c) limit the functions which the Court of Wards may delegate to a manager;
- (d) prescribe the cases in which proposals or arrangements connected with the administration of the properties of Government wards shall be reported for the sanction of the Chief Commissioner or for that of the Commissioner of the division;
- (e) prescribe the accounts and other returns which, and the periods and form at and in which, they shall be rendered by managers to the Court of Wards and by the Court of Wards to the Commissioner of the division;
- (f) regulate the custody of securities and title-deeds belonging to the estate or property of a Government ward;

(g) regulate

- (g) regulate the procedure in inquiries by the Court of Wards and in appeals from orders of the Court of Wards or the Commissioner of the division respectively under this Act;
- (h) confer upon the Court of Wards for the purposes of this Act any of the powers exercised by a Civil Court in the trial of suits;
- (i) prescribe the mode in which powers delegated to managers are to be notified for the information of persons concerned; and
- (j) generally prescribe the manner in which the powers and duties of the Court of Wards under this Act shall be exercised and performed.

(2) All rules made under this section shall be published in the local official Gazette, and shall thereupon have the force of law.

THE LAND ACQUISITION (MINES) ACT, 1885.

CONTENTS.

SECTIONS.

1. Short title, commencement, and local extent.
2. Saving for mineral rights of the Government.
3. Declaration that mines are not needed.
4. Notice to be given before working mines lying under land.
5. Power to prevent or restrict working.
6. Mode of determining persons interested and amount of compensation.
7. If Local Government does not offer to pay compensation, mines may be worked in a proper manner.
8. Mining communications.
9. Local Government to pay compensation for injury done to mines.
10. And a so for injury arising from any airway or other work.
11. Power to officer of Local Government to enter and inspect the working of mines.
12. Penalty for refusal to allow inspection.
13. If mines worked contrary to provisions of this Act, Local Government may require means to be adopted for safety of land acquired.
14. Construction of Act when land acquired has been transferred to a local authority or Company.
15. Pending cases.
16. Definition of local authority and Company.
17. This Act to be read with Land Acquisition Act, 1870.

ACT No. XVIII OF 1885.

PASSED BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

(Received the assent of the Governor General on the 16th October, 1885.)

An Act to provide for cases in which Mines or Minerals are situate under land which it is desired to acquire under the Land Acquisition Act, 1870.

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for cases in which mines or minerals are situate under land which it is desired to acquire under the Land Acquisition Act, 1870; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

X of 1870.

1. (1) This Act may be called the Land Acquisition (Mines) Act, 1885; and

Short title, commencement and local extent.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

(3) It extends in the first instance to the territories administered by the Governor of Madras in Council and the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, but any other Local Government may, from time to time, by notification in the official Gazette, extend this Act to the whole or any specified part of the territories under its administration.

2. Except as expressly provided by this Act, nothing in this Act shall affect the right of the Government to any mines or minerals.

Saving for mineral rights of the Government.

3. (1) When the Local Government makes a declaration under section 6 of the Land Acquisition Act, 1870, that land is needed for a public purpose or for a Company, it may, if it thinks fit, insert in the declaration a statement that the mines of coal, iron-stone, slate or other minerals lying under the land or any

Declaration that mines are not needed.

X of 1870.

particular

particular portion of the land, except only such parts of the mines or minerals as it may be necessary to dig or carry away or use in the construction of the work for the purpose of which the land is being acquired, are not needed.

(2) When a statement as aforesaid has not been inserted in the declaration made in respect of any land under section 6 of the Land Acquisition Act,* X of 1870. 1870, and the Collector is of opinion that the provisions of this Act ought to be applied to the land, he may abstain from tendering compensation under section 11 of the said Land Acquisition Act in respect of the mines, and may—

- (a) when he makes an award under section 14 of that Act, insert such a statement in his award;
- (b) when he makes a reference to the Court under section 15 of that Act, insert such a statement in his reference; or
- (c) when he takes possession of the land under section 17 of that Act, publish such a statement in such manner as the Governor General in Council may, from time to time, prescribe.

(3) If any such statement is inserted in the declaration, award or reference, or published as aforesaid, the mines of coal, iron-stone, slate or other minerals under the land or portion of the land specified in the statement, except as aforesaid, shall not vest in the Government when the land so vests under the said Act.

Notice to be
given before
working
mines lying
under land.

4. If the person for the time being immediately entitled to work or get any mines or minerals lying under any land so acquired is desirous of working or getting the same, he shall give the Local Government notice in writing of his intention so to do sixty days before the commencement of working.

Power to
prevent or

5. (1) At any time or times after the receipt of a notice under the last foregoing section, and whether before

before or after the expiration of the said period of sixty days, the Local Government may cause the mines or minerals to be inspected by a person appointed by it for the purpose; and

restrict
working.

(2) If it appears to the Local Government that the working or getting of the mines or minerals, or any part thereof, is likely to cause damage to the surface of the land or any works thereon, the Local Government may publish, in such manner as the Governor General in Council may, from time to time, direct, a declaration of its willingness, either—

(a) to pay compensation for the mines or minerals still unworked or ungotten, or that part thereof, to all persons having an interest in the same; or

(b) to pay compensation to all such persons in consideration of those mines or minerals, or that part thereof, being worked or gotten in such manner and subject to such restrictions as the Local Government may in its declaration specify.

(3) If the declaration mentioned in case (a) is made, then those mines or minerals, or that part thereof, shall not thereafter be worked or gotten by any person.

(4) If the declaration mentioned in case (b) is made, then those mines or minerals, or that part thereof, shall not thereafter be worked or gotten by any person save in the manner and subject to the restrictions specified by the Local Government.

6. When the working or getting of any mines or minerals has been prevented or restricted under section 5, the persons interested in those mines or minerals and the amounts of compensation payable to them respectively shall, subject to all necessary modifications, be ascertained in the manner provided by the Land Acquisition Act, 1870, for ascertaining the persons interested in the land to be acquired under that Act,

Mode of
determining
persons
interested
and amount
of compensa-
tion.
X of 1870.

and

and the amounts of compensation payable to them, respectively.

If Local Government does not offer to pay compensation, mines may be worked in a proper manner.

7. (1) If before the expiration of the said sixty days the Local Government does not publish a declaration as provided in section 5, the owner, lessee, or occupier of the mines may, unless and until such a declaration is subsequently made, work the mines or any part thereof in a manner proper and necessary for the beneficial working thereof, and according to the usual manner of working such mines in the local area where the same are situate.

(2) If any damage or obstruction is caused to the surface of the land or any works thereon by improper working of the mines, the owner, lessee or occupier of the mines shall at once, at his own expense, repair the damage or remove the obstruction, as the case may require.

(3) If the repair or removal is not at once effected, or, if the Local Government so thinks fit, without waiting for the same to be effected by the owner, lessee or occupier, the Local Government may execute the same and recover from the owner, lessee or occupier the expense occasioned thereby.

Mining communications.

8. If the working of any mines is prevented or restricted under section 5, the respective owners, lessees and occupiers of the mines, if their mines extend so as to lie on both sides of the mines the working of which is prevented or restricted, may cut and make such and so many airways, headways, gateways or water-levels through the mines, measures or strata, the working whereof is prevented or restricted, as may be requisite to enable them to ventilate, drain and work their said mines; but no such airway, headway, gateway or water-level shall be of greater dimensions or section than may be prescribed by the Governor General in Council in this behalf, and, where no dimensions are so prescribed, not greater than eight feet wide and eight feet high, nor shall the same be cut or made upon any part of the surface or works, or so as to injure the same, or to interfere with the use thereof.

9. The

9. The Local Government shall, from time to time, pay to the owner, lessee or occupier of any such mines extending so as to lie on both sides of the mines, the working of which is prevented or restricted, all such additional expenses and losses as may be incurred by him by reason of the severance of the lands lying over those mines or of the continuous working of those mines being interrupted as aforesaid, or by reason of the same being worked in such manner and under such restrictions as not to prejudice or injure the surface or works, and for any minerals not acquired by the Local Government which cannot be obtained by reason of the action taken under the foregoing sections; and if any dispute or question arises between the Local Government and the owner, lessee or occupier as aforesaid, touching the amount of those losses or expenses, the same shall be settled as nearly as may be in the manner provided for the settlement of questions touching the amount of compensation payable under the Land Acquisition Act, 1870.

Local Government to pay compensation for injury done to mines.

X of 1870.

10. If any loss or damage is sustained by the owner or occupier of the lands lying over any such mines, the working whereof has been so prevented or restricted as aforesaid (and not being the owner, lessee or occupier of those mines), by reason of the making of any such airway or other works as aforesaid, which or any like work it would not have been necessary to make but for the working of the mines having been so prevented or restricted as aforesaid, the Local Government shall pay full compensation to that owner or occupier of the surface lands for the loss or damage so sustained by him.

And also for injury arising from any airway or other work.

11. For better ascertaining whether any mines lying under land acquired in accordance with the provisions of this Act are being worked, or have been worked, or are likely to be worked so as to damage the land or the works thereon, an officer appointed for this purpose by the Local Government may, after giving twenty-four hours' notice in writing, enter into and return from any such mines or the works connected therewith; and for that purpose the officer so

Power to officer of Local Government to enter and inspect the working of mines.

appointed

appointed may make use of any apparatus or machinery belonging to the owner, lessee or occupier of the mines, and use all necessary means for discovering the distance from any part of the land acquired to the parts of the mines which have been, are being, or are about to be worked.

Penalty for refusal to allow inspection.

12. If any owner, lessee or occupier of any such mines or works refuses to allow any officer appointed by the Local Government for that purpose to enter into and inspect any such mines or works in manner aforesaid, he shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

If mines worked contrary to provisions of this Act, Local Government may require means to be adopted for safety of land acquired.

13. If it appears that any such mines have been worked contrary to the provisions of this Act, the Local Government may, if it thinks fit, give notice to the owner, lessee or occupier thereof to construct such works and to adopt such means as may be necessary or proper for making safe the land acquired, and the works thereon, and preventing injury thereto; and if, after such notice, any such owner, lessee or occupier does not forthwith proceed to construct the works necessary for making safe the land acquired and the works thereon, the Local Government may itself construct the works and recover the expense thereof from the owner, lessee or occupier.

Construction of Act when land acquired has been transferred to a local authority or Company.

14. When a statement under section 3 has been made regarding any land, and the land has been acquired by the Government, and has been transferred to or has vested by operation of law in a local authority or Company, then sections 4 to 13, both inclusive, shall be read as if for the words "the Local Government", wherever they occur in those sections, the words "the local authority or Company, as the case may be, which has acquired the land" were substituted.

Pending cases.

15. (1) This Act shall apply to any land for the acquisition whereof proceedings under the Land Acquisition Act, 1870, are pending at the time when this Act comes into force, unless before that time the Collector has made, in respect of the land, an award under section 14 or a reference to the Court under

X of 1870.

under section 15 of that Act, or has taken possession of the land under section 17 of the same.

(2) When the Collector has before the said time made an award or reference in respect of any such land or taken possession thereof as aforesaid, and all the persons interested in the land, or entitled under the Land Acquisition Act, 1870, to act for persons so interested, who have attended or may attend in the course of the proceedings under sections 11 to 15, both inclusive, of the Land Acquisition Act, 1870, consent in writing to the application of this Act to the land, the Collector may by an order in writing direct that it shall apply, and thereupon it shall be deemed to have applied from the commencement of the proceedings; and the Collector shall be deemed, as the case may be, to have inserted in his award or reference, or to have published in the prescribed manner, when he took possession, the statement mentioned in section 3 of this Act.

X of 1870.

X of 1870.

16. In this Act—

(a) “local authority” means any municipal committee, district board, body of port commissioners or other authority legally entitled to, or entrusted by the Government with, the control or management of any municipal or local fund; and

(b) “Company” means a Company registered under any of the enactments relating to Companies from time to time in force in British India, or formed in pursuance of an Act of Parliament or by Royal Charter or Letters Patent.

Definition of local authority and Company.

17. This Act shall, for the purposes of all enactments for the time being in force, be read with and taken as part of the Land Acquisition Act, 1870.

This Act to be read with Land Acquisition Act, 1870.

X of 1870.

ACT No. XIX OF 1885.

PASSED BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

(Received the assent of the Governor General on the 16th October, 1885)

An Act to amend the law relating to Government Securities.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the law relating to Government securities in manner herein-after appearing; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Indian Securities Act, 1885; and

Short title
and com-
mencement.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. In this Act—

Definitions.

the expression “Government security” includes promissory notes, debentures, stock certificates and all other securities issued by the Government of India or by any Local Government in respect of any loan issued under notification in the official Gazette, whether before or after the passing of this Act, but does not include a stock note or a currency note: and

“prescribed” means prescribed by rules made from time to time by the Governor General in Council in this behalf.

IX of 1872. 3. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Indian Contract Act, section 45, when a Government security issued before the first day of April, 1886, is payable to two or more persons jointly and any of them dies, the security shall be payable to the survivor or survivors of those persons.

Right of survivors of joint payees of Government securities.

(2) Nothing

[Price one anna and nine pies.]

(2) Nothing herein contained shall affect any claim which the representative of the deceased person may have against the survivor or survivors in respect of the security jointly payable to them and the deceased.

(3) This section shall apply whether the death of the person to whom the security was jointly payable occurred or occurs before or after this Act comes into force.

Issue of renewed securities.

4. A person claiming to be entitled to a Government security as payable to him under an endorsement may, on satisfying the prescribed officer of the justice of his claim and paying the prescribed fee and delivering the security duly receipted to the prescribed officer, obtain from the officer a renewed security issued payable to himself.

Issue of duplicate securities.

5. (1) When a Government security is alleged to have been wholly or partly lost or destroyed, and a person claims to be the person to whom but for such loss or destruction it would be payable, he may, on application to the prescribed officer, and on producing proof to his satisfaction of the loss or destruction and of the justice of the claim, obtain from him an order for—

- (a) the payment of interest in respect of the security said to be lost or destroyed pending the issue of a duplicate security; and
- (b) the issue of a duplicate security payable to the applicant.

(2) An order shall not be passed under sub-section (1) until after the issue of the prescribed notification of the loss or destruction and after the expiration of the prescribed period, nor until the applicant has given the prescribed indemnity against the claims of all persons deriving title under the security lost or destroyed.

(3) A list of the securities in respect of which an order is passed under sub-section (1) shall be published in the *Gazette of India* at such times as the Governor

Governor General in Council may, from time to time, direct.

6. When a renewed security has been issued under section 4, or a duplicate security has been issued under section 5, the Government shall be discharged of all liability in respect of the original security of which such renewed or duplicate security has been issued—

Period after which Government is released from liability in respect of original security.

- (a) in the case of a renewed security, after the lapse of six years from the date of the issue of the renewed security ;
- (b) in the case of a duplicate security, after the lapse of six years from the date of the publication under section 5, sub-section (3), of the list in which the security is first mentioned, or from the date of the last payment of interest on the original security, whichever date is latest.

7. The Governor General in Council may, from time to time, make rules to prescribe—

Power of Governor General in Council to make rules.

- (a) the fees to be paid for applications under sections 4 and 5 ;
- (b) the form in which securities delivered for renewal are to be receipted ;
- (c) the officer who is to exercise all or any of the powers and perform all or any of the duties prescribed by sections 4 and 5 ;
- (d) the proof which is to be produced by persons applying for duplicate securities ;
- (e) the form and mode of publication of the notification mentioned in section 5, and the period after which interest may be paid or a duplicate security may be issued under that section ;
- (f) the nature and amount of the indemnity to be given by a person applying under section 5 for the payment of interest or the issue of a duplicate security ; and

(g) generally

Bengal Tenancy. [ACT XX, 1885.]

this behalf, or, if no date is so appointed, on the first day of February, 1886, and not before ;

- (b) until those provisions come into force, the enactments specified in Schedule I annexed to the said Act shall, in so far as they relate to deposits of rent and distraint, continue in force, and all references to those provisions in other portions of the said Act shall, so far as may be, be read as if they were made to the corresponding provisions of the said enactments.

· ACT No. XXI OF 1885.

PASSED BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

*(Received the assent of the Governor General on the 26th
October, 1885.)*

An Act to amend the Madras Civil Courts Act, 1873.

III of 1873. **W**HEREAS it is expedient to amend the Madras Civil Courts Act, 1873; It is hereby enacted as follows :—

1 (1) This Act may be called the Madras Civil Courts Act, 1885; and Short title and commencement.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

III of 1873. 2. To section 5 of the Madras Civil Courts Act, 1873, the following shall be added, namely :— Addition to section 5 of Act III of 1873.

“The places fixed for any Court under this section shall be deemed to be within the local jurisdiction of that Court.”

3. To section 11 of the same Act the following shall be added, namely :— Addition to section 11 of the same Act.

“If the High Court assigns the same local jurisdiction to two or more District Munsifs, it shall declare which of them shall be deemed the Principal District Munsif, and the other, or others, shall be called Additional District Munsifs, and shall take cognizance only of such suits and applications as may, by special or general order in this behalf, be directed by the District Judge.”

4. (a) In section 22 of the same Act, before the words “be final”, and Amendment of sections 22 and 23 of the same Act.

(b) in section 23 of the same Act as amended by Act XIX of 1877, before the words “be suspended or removed”,

the

Madras Civil Courts. [ACT XXI, 1885.]

the words “subject to the control of the High Court” shall be inserted.

Amendment
of section 28
of the same
Act.

5. In section 28 of the same Act—

- (a) before the words “Subordinate Judge”, in both places where they occur, the words “District or” shall be inserted;
- (b) after the words “rupees fifty” the words “or on the recommendation of the High Court up to any amount not exceeding rupees two hundred” shall be inserted.

